

THE ELEANOR ROOSEVELT PROGRAM

June 21, 1951

Description: In the opening segment, ER responds to a listener who questions whether the United States should fight the Cold War. In the following segment, ER interviews Ahmed Kassem Gouda, a journalist and newscaster who is a regular commentator for the Egyptian State broadcasting system

Participants: ER, Elliott Roosevelt, Ahmed Kassem Gouda

[ER:] How do you do? This is Eleanor Roosevelt. Every Monday through Friday, my son Elliott and I have the opportunity to visit with you here in my living room at the Park Sheraton Hotel in New York City. Each day it is our desire to bring interesting guests that we are hopeful you will enjoy meeting. Elliott, will you tell our listeners today's plans?

[Elliott Roosevelt:] Every day the Middle East area gains in importance in the news and in relation to the general world situation. To give us a better understanding of one of the most important areas, Egypt, Mrs. Roosevelt has invited as her guest today Mr. Ahmed Kassem Gouda, a prominent Egyptian journalist and radio newscaster. Before we hear the interview with Mr. Gouda, we will as usual discuss a question sent in by a listener. And now our announcer has some important messages for us from the sponsors who make this recorded program possible.

[Break 1:09 to 1:23]

[Elliott Roosevelt:] The letter that Mrs. Roosevelt and I will discuss today contains a bit of criticism but poses a very provocative question. Mrs. E. Cramer of Brooklyn, New York, writes, "My dear Mrs. Roosevelt, on your program of Friday, May the twenty-fifth, in discussi- discussing the question of MacArthur versus President Truman, you inevitably strayed to the overall question on the world situation today. Among other things I heard you say that Russia is out for world domination. Now I am by no means a communist. I am still one of the few New Dealers left in this country. I always had the highest opinion of your policies, but since the death of President Roosevelt, however, you-you too have deviated from his principles. Why did President Roosevelt think that we could live in this world together with the communists harmoniously, friendly, and cooperating? Why can't we live our way of life and let them live theirs? Are they threatening us? Why not have a pact with them along these lines? Why not trade with them instead? Let us compete, our form of government against theirs. Let us spend half of the war budget for welfare and see which people have a better life, ours or theirs. I cannot understand war; it's barbarous. After the fighting is over you still have to sit down to discussions. Why not save all those thousands upon thousands of humans?"

[ER:] Yes, dear lady, it would be wonderful if Russia would agree to what you have just outlined. If we could get an agreement from Russia, which we've been trying to get now for nearly five years. That we would all uh-uh keep our own systems of government; we would all trade together on a fair and equal basis, uh which would be uh arranged between us after decisions on uh what we could do and wanted to do uh; if we could agree that we would give to the United Nations the power over all military equipment, and we would all accept inspection to make sure that nowhere was force being built up which could overwhelm other nations; that all of it would be in the hands of the United Nations, then your program would be entirely possible. But there has been just one person that would not agree and that is the government of the USSR. And just as long as the USSR will not agree, you are forced to arm, you are forced to be militarily strong, because you can't let the USSR be the only nation in the world that is able

one day to say, "I want so and so," and walk over Europe and proceed to walk over the United States. So for that reason, you are bound to defend yourself and to have these horrible war budgets, which I feel about just the way you do. But I would prefer it to slavery under the USSR, and so for that reason I have to accept it till the USSR sees the light.

[Elliott Roosevelt:] Mother, I'd like to uh have you bring out one point that I feel is quite important to people who write in letters of this kind. Uh they state uh that Father when he was alive said that we could live together in a world together with the communists, harmoniously, friendly, and cooperating. And he based that on a statement made and upon a policy issued by the Soviet government at the time of uh the conferences that Stalin had with him where they abolished the World International -- uh the effort on their part to impose communism as a regime on other nations outside of their own nation. They have publically repudiated since the war and have established what is known as the Cominform, which is nothing but the World International organization rebuilt and reconstituted, and they've been eminently successful in imposing communist regimes on other countries in the wor-in the world and they have publically stated-- [ER: From within.] from within and also by [ER: From without.] aggression, [ER: Yes.] because they armed the North Korean puppet government and invaded the South Koreans. Then on top of that they have stated in speech after speech after speech addressed to the world that there can be no compromise until communism wipes out all other forms of government. And they have publically stated that they were going after a world aggression to conquer the world and make the whole world communistic. (6:36)

[ER:] Yes, that's all perfectly true and that all came, of course, after uh Father's death, but probably this lady thinks that uh it came about because of their uh fear of us, which uh is, I think, uh-uh a misapprehension. Because uh while I think they are suspicious of us and are now afraid of us, uh that fear, uh as even this lady must well know, uh should have always been an unfounded fear, because we have never been an aggressor nation, we never started a war. And it should have been easy to prove to themselves that we were not going out to be an aggressor nation now, but she undoubtedly would come back with the fact that what we have done since they began to expand and to announce their policies -- their new policies -- is-- has [ER coughs] been a cause for their attitude. I don't think it ever has been. I think it's only been the result of their attitude but uh this lady also reads a great deal of communist literature.

[Elliott Roosevelt:] I think there's no question about that, and I'd like to deal with uh with the question of uh the barbarity of war and the fact that when the fighting is over you still have to sit down to discussions. [ER: But of course that's true. You still do, but you sit down with the results of the war behind you.] And I'd like to -- yes, but I'd like to point out -- I'd like to point out that what you and many others are advocating today is that the discussions will be continued. Uh that the discussions are now going forward. In spite of the fact that there is still bloodshed in the world, that there is a constant effort being made through discussions -- through the United Nations to find a solution.

[ER:] Uh there's more than just discussions, there is active work being done through the United Nations, through its specialized agencies, helping greater understanding and helping nations to a better method of life, [Elliott Roosevelt: That--] that's going on at the present time.

[Elliott Roosevelt:] So that in actuality, what she is talking about of course is what the ultimate goal is of every thinking American in public life and in private life in this country, but what uh she has got to do is to realize that until the Soviet government as such sits down and says, "All right, we're ready to live harmoniously," we are not going to be able to make too much progress in ending war. [ER: That's true.] Now, do you believe that there is any-any sort of progress being made to impress upon the Soviet regime that it is necessary to do this and to end the bloodshed?

[ER:] I feel just as long as we keep them in the United Nations they are getting through their envoys a modicum of education. How much their envoys dare say of what actually happens, it's hard to tell, but they must learn something. And therefore I am very anxious to keep them in the United Nations and very sure that that is the one way in which eventually we may persuade them that war is not worthwhile.

[Elliott Roosevelt:] And uh you definitely feel that these men who are going back, who even though they make very little uh change in the way they uh deal with the situations at the present time, you feel that uh they are gaining factual information, and that as they become more important in their governments they will probably be more enlightened in dealing eventually with us? [ER: I feel that way.] Well, I'm very happy to hear you say that, and I believe uh that uh-uh probably this lady uh if she would read more widely than just reading communist doctrines, that she will probably come to a more healthy understanding of what it is that this government is trying to do. And so I hope that this answer is sufficient uh to answer her and to set her on a new path of thinking uh on international affairs and the part that this government will play. So now I see that our time is up and that we have to go on to another part of the program, but before we go on to it our announcer has a very important message for all of us. (11:36)

[Break 11:36 to 11:44]

[ER:] Thank you, Elliott. I'm happy to introduce [ER coughs] Mr. Ahmed Kassem Gouda, editor-in-chief of the important weekly newspaper *Al-Nida* and a regular commentator on the Egyptian state broadcasting system. Mr. Gouda.

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] Well, thank you very much, Mrs. Roosevelt, I am very glad to uh come here to the States.

[ER:] First, Mr. Gouda, I would like to explain to our audience that you are here with the Town Hall uh Mission, [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: That's right.] and uh that you are going to tour the country, I understand you are, aren't you? [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: Yes, we are looking forward to--] going out all the way to the West and intermediate places [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: That's right.]. And now first of all as background, would you tell us how Egypt's economic position differs from that of most of the countries of Western Europe.

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] Well, the obvious difference between Egypt and any other country in the Western Europe is that the latter has long been fully developed from the economic point of view as well as the industrial. Whereas Egypt, as you know, is one of the most underdeveloped countries in the world. I do not mean that Egypt is actually worse off than the rest of the Middle East or African countries, but I mean that Egypt's potentialities have not yet been allowed to develop in any satisfactory degree. Given the proper measure of aid and honest collaboration uh these potentialities offer a very encouraging prospect for the future.

[ER:] Well, that uh [ER coughs] that's an encouraging thing to hear you say because of course Egypt is a very key nation in that whole Middle Eastern situation. Now, I'd like to know how the Egyptian government is set up. Is there a party system, such as we have in the United States, or how is it set up as a whole?

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] Well, uh they set up in Egypt, government of Egypt, is more or less like uh the way the uh government in England or any European uh country is run. Little it differs from America in this way, that we have the head of state, uh now uh His Majesty King Farouk, he's a constitutional monarch. Uh he is not responsible for the government, because we have uh the head of the government, we call the prime minister, uh which you don't have here. So uh here in America, I know that Mr. Truman

uh the president of the state is usually the head [ER: Is the head.] of both state and government, whereas we don't have this.

[ER:] You don't have that set up. So yours is really modeled on the English system, [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: More or less.] the parliamentary system. Now can you uh do-do you do you have free election of uh -- what is your franchise based on?

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] It's public suffrage uh-uh public-- (14:53)

[ER:] Public suffrage for everybody. Do you have any tests at all they have to go through of education or of uh property or of anything of that kind?

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] No, no, no, unlimited; everyone [ER: Unlimited?] has it. [ER: everybody has it?] Everybody has it, except uh-uh women for the time being.

[ER:] Women don't have it?

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] They don't have it, unfortunately.

[ER:] So women are not yet people in Egypt? [ER laughs]

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] Well, they are, but we admit our fault.

[ER:] Now do they uh do women have free access to all uh mediums of education?

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] Uh yes, certainly

[ER:] And are they allowed to enter any kind of occupation in Egypt?

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] All kinds of occupations, almost all of them.

[ER:] Everything is open, practically, to women? [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: Just uh--] Just the voting that's not allowed. [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: That's it.]. I see, well, after all the oldest democracy in Europe is Switzerland and they don't uh--women don't vote in Switzerland, which is always a surprise to me. Well now, uh let's come back to the economic uh position for a minute, uh you said they were very, you were - - Egypt was -- had great potentialities but they were not developed as yet. Uh do you think that Egypt should receive Marshall Plan aid?

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] Well, doesn't uh really matter what name we-we give it, but uh the point of issue is that this aid uh should be sufficient and that uh-uh it should come before it is too late. Uh I must make it clear that we realize in the last--in the light of the past long, unfortunate experience we had in the last fifty or sixty years that real help should come from inside. We know for dead sure that unless we help ourselves nobody will help us uh unless it is for his own economic or political interest to the detriment of our own. Uh I hope the people of this country know at least some of the efforts we have been making in the last few years to pull ourselves out of the mess we inherited from the long British rule. (17:04)

[ER:] Well, of course, as you know, Marshall aid to Europe comes to an end uh rather soon now, and when you say uh Marshall aid you really, in any other part of the world, you really mean a type of assistance you don't mean uh under this same plan uh aid. But I'm interested in what you say that uh the plan should be made by the Egyptians themselves. That of course is the same structure of Marshall aid; the plans were always made by the countries themselves. Then we did have representatives uh that were there to observe how the plan was carried out, but it was carried out by the country that received the aid,

and if there was anything that the observer felt was wrong he communicated with the country, [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: Yes, yes.] and it was not uh in any way run by the United States, that was nothing -- that was not uh part of the Marshall Plan. So I imagine from what you said, that it's that type of aid that you would like to have for Europe, and I suppose that you also know whether you have need of certain types of non-money aid, but of aid in the technical or scientific field, so that you would be aware of what you wanted to have.

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] That's right, we-we-we don't need money only. We perhaps we need more of the technical uh aid from America.

[ER:] Well, I have never been in any of that ar--those areas of the world, but I used to hear from my husband, and he always felt that one of the things that all North Africa needed, and that would include, of course, Egypt, was uh a real agricultural and forestry program uh which would include uh using underground rivers for irrigation as well as the Nile which seems to have been the only [ER laughs] uh source used in the past. Because he felt you could bring back much of your desert as we have brought back much of ours in this country through the use of different types of farming, of reaching underground rivers and using irrigation and of uh reforestation to a very large extent. Now uh have--you have plans I know because I asked you yesterday, you have plans of visiting that type of work while you're in this country?

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] Yes, certainly, and uh I may add that uh re-cultivated land in Egypt is uh so small, uh if we mention the number of population, and uh may interest you to know that uh y-thousands of years ago, that is about 3,000 years ago, the oasis in the desert uh used to be populated by about eight million peoples, uh now there is hardly a uh-uh-uh matter of eight thousand people [ER: Yes.] so it shows t-t-that stretch of land the desert—

[ER:] Wasn't there a time when much of the desert of North Africa was the bread-basket of Europe? Wasn't that where a great deal of the wheat grew in the old days?

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] Yes, and we hope it will be again.

[ER:] You hope it will be again [ER laughs]. Well, now I wonder coming -- I know you chiefly are interested in the economic situation, and I wonder if you think that uh this plan whatever it is should be carried out more through the investment of private American capital, whether that would be preferable than a government plan. (21:24)

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] Uh investment of uh private American capital is only one-one way of realizing the eagerly desired cooperation between our two countries. We welcome all foreign, especially American, invested capital. But I must be very frank about one point that should not surprise you in this country. We have had that old experience with foreign capital in the past, and uh-uh that's why we want to make it very plain to all that any foreign capital brought to our country should uh not be used or rather misused as a cover for political, or to be more exact, any imperialistic aim.

[ER:] In other words, it should be used for economic purposes and not for political purposes. [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: That's right.] That's what you're talking about. [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: That's right, Mrs. Roosevelt.]. Uh I wonder if anything is being done in the direction of-of interesting foreign capital now, are you doing anything. [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: Right now, I'd say, we are doing a lot.] You are doing a lot. [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: We are doing a lot]. Well, uh that I'm sure you'll-you'll be successful if you really want it, and I hope in the way you want it. Now for one minute we have to stop this talk and let our announcers have a word, but we'll come right back. (22:45)

[Break 22:45 to 22:59]

[ER:] Now we come back to the interview with Mr. Ahmed Kassem Gouda, who is here uh on the Egyptian uh Committee of the Town Hall touring the country, and uh I'd like to ask you a question, Mr. Gouda. You must know that in the past visitors to Egypt have sometimes been a little shocked by uh conditions -- living conditions and social conditions -- which they observe. Now it was a very casual uh observation, and uh [ER coughs] I imagine there are comparatively few uh people in this country who know a great deal about the conditions under which uh perhaps nineteen million of your Egyptian rural people live. Uh but I know that you have been making efforts in the direction of social security, and that you passed a very modern uh social security law not long ago. And I would like to know uh what you feel are the advances that have been made, because I know it's not enough to pass laws and put them on paper. It takes a long while usually to actually put them in practice, and I would like to know what you feel are the real advances that are now being made.

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] Well, uh I must you assure you first of all uh-uh, Mrs. Roosevelt, that uh-uh we have already started putting these plans uh in action. And just before we left Egypt, that is a couple of weeks ago, uh his Majesty King Farouk handed uh-uh by himself the first uh certificate for uh-uh enacting social security, and he added some money from his own personal pocket to the insurance uh -- [ER:] Now, is that insurance uh for old age?

[Ahmed Kaseem Gouda:] For different uh sorts of inabilities—

[ER:] You're setting up different uh funds for different insurance purposes, old age, unemployment and so forth [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: Yes, all sorts.] and sickness, that type of thing? [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: Yes.] Well now I-I wonder about education, uh how-how are you going about -- because that is really one of the necessary things in a in any kind of social security, and any kind of democratic government -- how are you going about uh obtaining uh a real educational system that all people can share in?

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] We have now already uh started addressing some of the faults of the past, the long past, and uh it may please you certainly to please you to know that uh the uh-uh standard of illiteracy in our country has uh came down so low uh that we have done more in twenty years that had been done in sixty years earlier.

[ER:] That's wonderful. What is uh what used to be the percentage, and what is it today?

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] Uh well uh it used to be about 6 percent literacy, the rest were illiterate, 49 percent, now it's about 27 percent literacy, and- [ER: That's going up quite quickly then.] and we hope in a very few short time it is in uh about five years no one in Egypt will be illiterate.

[ER:] Well, you will have done it quite quickly, because India has not been able to progress that quickly. Now, I should think one very difficult thing with you would be uh it's-it's obvious that you can't uh without a-a better standard of literacy you probably can't teach uh hygiene, uh even the princi-the first principles of clean water and that type of thing which is necessary, uh nor can you teach uh the-the participation in their government that is necessary. Now uh-uh what are you doing from the point of view of hygiene to begin and make them conscious of the needs?

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] Well, we have now health centers all over the country and we are spreading them everywhere uh every year, adding up more and more, and uh we hope that uh in a couple of years we'll have two thousand or three thousand to cover the four thousand villages that we have.

[ER:] Most of us feel, of course, that in areas of the world where people, I mean by that the mass of people, are uh unhappy uh are merely existing not really living uh there is a fertile field for the

development of communism, that a communist economy appeals naturally to people like that, and never having known much freedom uh they do not feel any oppression if they get certain elementary things. Now what would you say that communist influence meant in Egypt as a whole?

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] Well, uh communism in Egypt, as you know, is banned by the law, but this is the worst way of fighting it, as you know. Uh-uh still they are noisy. They uh as usual whenever they are not in the majority you find them making a lot of propaganda. But the point is serious uh disadvantage facing us is this: that discontentment would not arise out of mere ideology, these people will never understand communism and ideology its real meaning but they are just don't like how they are living, and that's where communists are most busy.

[ER:] Communists are very adept at uh making use of the disadvantage [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: Quite right.] of having people unhappy. [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: Quite right.] They do that well. So you feel there is of course a danger, as I would feel, of communism growing where uh you don't uh give people a hope in some other way. (29:38)

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] That's right, Mrs. Roosevelt, and uh it's uh quite a c-curious coincidence that now I have a copy of the *London Weekly Times*, where the correspondent refers to another problem facing us now, which will help communism a lot if we don't face it uh immediately as soon as possible. You see I have the thing, and it refers to it this way, he's referring to the refugees problem, and he says this in effect, I quote uh, "They are already a serious potential threat to international stability, and the perfect soil for communist propaganda. One of the most telling themes of which is that the Americans and British are deliberately refusing to resettle the refugees so that they may parish and thus cease to be a problem." This is, of course, uh incredible as far as I believe, but you see there--there you are communists are ready to pick up a mistake.

[ER:] Well, naturally that would- that would naturally be said by the communists. Uh it is essential I think, and my government thinks, that uh all refugees be resettled as rapidly as possible. Uh I quite understand uh that any people who are obliged to live in camps would be very unhappy people. So that I think aid should be given by the United Nations and if it is given by the United Nations, the United States will of course pay quite a large share of that aid, therefore uh the United States will contribute to uh the resettlement of people. The question is uh, I think, how quickly it can be done [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: That's right.] by the-the consent of all the nations involved. Now I'd like to ask you a question uh about the attitude of uh the informed people in Egypt on uh the United States' attitude towards the Middle Eastern situation in general. How do they feel about it? Do they feel that we are stupid, that we are not generous, what-what is their feeling?

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] No, they are grateful, I assure you that uh now this old uh habit of uh rather lack of interest on the part of the United States towards that part of the world is over, and that uh-uh America is stepping in to do a lot. But you know when you come to like somebody and uh-uh be friendly to him you expect perhaps a little but too much, and that's uh I'm afraid our situation towards America now. We want America to step in not only in the economic field, ev-uh-uh in the other fields as well. Political: let us settle that question with the British uh government. Let us settle our economic difficulties and then we uh will be able to do something.

[ER:] I'm-I'm afraid the United States would be considered a rather interfering government if they stepped in on political questions as well as economic ones, [ER laughs] [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: Very true, very true.] but they probably should be as helpful as they can. I'd like to ask you one more question. Would the Arab League be of help to the cause of peace in Middle East or do you think it does not uh really uh aid the cause of peace?

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] Well, certainly the Arab League was started for that purpose uh and main. It's you know the covenant of the Arab League has been signed uh even before the covenant of League of Nations and has already been acknowledged by the United Nations uh as a uh regional body working for peace

[ER:] As a regional body working for peace. [Ahmed Kassem Gouda: For peace, yes.]. Well, that's an encouraging thing and I'm-I think that many of us hope very much that the Arab League uh will be able to help bring about peace. And now I'm sorry to say that I see our time has drawn to a close, and we must stop this interview, but I'm very grateful to you, Mr. Gouda, that you came today to answer these questions.

[Ahmed Kassem Gouda:] Thank you very much, Mrs. Roosevelt, and uh hope to uh keep your interest in our own affairs as long as possible. (34:10)

[Break 34:10 to 34:25]

[ER:] Today, more than ever before, the great scientific minds of our country are hard at work solving the mysteries of cancer. In over one hundred institutions in thirty-five states and the District of Columbia, researchers in all phases of the sciences are unravelling the answers which will one day will make possible complete control of the disease cancer. This represents the greatest scientific assault against a single disease ever waged by research. The results are already to be seen. Each year increasing thousands are being saved. While this is good news and encouraging, we cannot afford to relax our efforts. We still are losing too many thousands of those we love to cancer. Your support of the American Cancer Society's programs of research, service to the cancer patient and education are urgently needed. This disease is your personal concern for anyone can develop it. Guard those you love, join the 1951 Cancer Crusade, give as generously as you can to your local unit of the American Cancer Society, mail your contribution to Cancer, care of your local post office.

[Elliott Roosevelt:] And now it's time to close the program and to remind you that you've been listening to the Eleanor Roosevelt Program which comes to you every Monday through Friday at this same time, and this is Elliott Roosevelt speaking and wishing you all good day. (36:09)

[Break 36:09 to 36:29]

[Ben Grauer:] Friends, this is Ben Grauer speaking. Have you ever dipped into a bowl of vegetable soup and found only a smattering of vegetables? It's rather disappointing even downright annoying. Well, you'll never have that trouble with Habitant Vegetable Soup. Habitant Vegetable Soup is chock-full of all kinds of garden-fresh vegetables, aswim in the broth of natural vegetable juices. Yes, for hearty satisfying nourishment Habitant Vegetable Soup ranks right up front, and now your family will love the special Habitant flavor created by old-fashioned French recipes. For interesting variety in your soup menu remember Habitant Pea Soup, Genuine Old-Country French Pea Soup, and Heavenly Habitant Onion Soup with true golden goodness. All three come in the yellow cans and have been granted the *Good Housekeeping* seal plus the seal of *Parent's* magazine. Now Elliott has a letter from a listener.

[Break 37:36 to 37:46]

[Ben Grauer:] Are you looking for something new and different in cheese that's economical too? Well, here it is. It's Julianna a brand-new cheese with an old-world flavor. Newly arrived from the heart of Holland, Julianna is the result of age-old Dutch cheese formulas and is truly delicious and nutritious through and through. Julianna comes to you in two types, the tasty tangy Gouda spread for quick sandwiches or crackers or the mild and mellow Gouda and Eden wedges for salads, sauces, and with pie.

And here's the best news of all, the kind that will thrill the penny-wise housewife. Julianna gives you the luxury of imported cheese at prices the same or lower than domestic brands, so that ounce for ounce when you buy Julianna cheese it costs you no more to enjoy the best. Start today by treating yourself to a package of Julianna imported cheese, at all chain and independent grocers it's Julianna brand your best choice in cheese. Now it's guest time and here's Elliott. (38:52)

[Break 38:52 to 39:10]

[Ben Grauer:] Here is Mrs. Roosevelt uh after our usual pause at the mid-mark for identification. This is WNBC AM and FM New York, and you're listening to *The Eleanor Roosevelt Program* recorded in Mrs. Roosevelt living room in the Park Sheraton Hotel. In a recent letter the chief of the army field forces, General Mark Clark, expressed himself as follows, and now I'm quoting, "I am personally acquainted," said General Clark, "with the invaluable efforts made by the Red Cross in obtaining blood for our soldiers wounded in combat, and I'm deeply grateful for the lives that have been saved by these donations. A rather dramatic example of just what these blood donations mean to our combat soldiers has recently been reported to me by a member of one of my observer teams which I'm continually sending to Korea. A few days ago one of our fighter pilots received a shell fragment through his thigh while on a combat mission and suffered great loss of blood. Even though seriously wounded he landed his plane safely behind our lines, but on arrival at a hospital his life hung by his thread. It appeared that death was only a few minutes away. While one of the doctors was attending to his wound, he was given a transfusion of fresh whole blood that had just arrived from the States. Within five minutes his color had returned and his life was no longer in immediate danger. This was due entirely to the transfusion of fresh blood. My observer was able to follow the course of this patient and report that he was convalescent within ten days. This man's life was saved by the blood donation made possible through the American Red Cross." And there's the end of the quotation from the Army Field Forces Chief General Mark Clark. Have you given your pint recently to help save the life of a fighting man? Call MUrray Hill 9-1000, and make an appointment to share your healthy blood with those in need. Send your blood to the fighting fronts in Korea through the Red Cross. Now here again to continue her interview with Ahmed Kassem Gouda, the Egyptian journalist, here again is Mrs. Roosevelt.

[Break 41:25 to 41:41]

[Ben Grauer:] Mrs. Roosevelt has concluded her interview for today, a visit with a personality from the Middle East, Ahmed Kassem Gouda, Egyptian journalist and broadcaster. Now here is a message from the makers of Joy.

[Break 41:59 to 42:06]

[Ben Grauer:] This has been the Eleanor Roosevelt Program recorded in Mrs. Roosevelt's living room at the Park Sheraton Hotel on the corner of Fifty-Fifth Street and Seventh Avenue in New York City. Today Mrs. Roosevelt's guest was the well-known Egyptian journalist Ahmed Kassem Gouda. Mr. Gouda, a journalist and radio newscaster, uh spoke with Mrs. Roosevelt of some of the points of view which are current in his country, in fact throughout the Near East and the Middle East, which is so increasingly becoming prominent in world affairs and in our domestic headlines. Looking at our guest list, I find that tomorrow on Friday our week will be rounded out with a visit with another overseas personality who is currently here in New York, the German Consul-General in New York, Dr. Heinz Krakeler, who is ranking German representative in this country. On Monday our guest list is teed off with a Korean hero, Congressional Medal of Honor holder Lieutenant Carl Dodd. On Tuesday we visit with the well-known economist, lecturer and author of the recently published book *Roads to Agreements*, Mr. Stuart Chase. Mr. Chase has a very distinguished career going back some twenty to twenty-five years. His book uh *Mexico: a Study in Contrast* is one of the earliest books to popularize the new Mexico, the Mexico of

today, I should say, to American readers. His study on semantics and their application to current thinking in *The Tyranny of Words* is another example of the broad active wide-ranging intelligence which Mr. Chase brings to current problems. Wednesday we have an unusual and very winning visitor with Mrs. Roosevelt in the presence of Walter Philipp. Philipp, as he signs himself in his paintings, is a specialist in the uh laugh--the tear behind the laugh of the Pagliacci, of the clown. Uh he can to fame through the series of his paintings which were hung as a hobby in the delicatessen where he was serving as a waiter. Behind him lies a career in Germany himself as a clown performer in the circus. A very unusual career climaxed now by his stunning success as a newly-discovered interpreter of the comedy and tragedy of clowns on canvas, Walter Philipp. On Thursday, June 28, two noted Egyptian ladies will visit with Mrs. Roosevelt to discuss some of the problems of establishing women's rights in Egypt and the fight against illiteracy in that country. Mrs. Asma H. Fahmy, who is professor of education and director of the Institute for Education for Girls at Ibrahim University in Cairo will be joined by a countrywoman of hers Miss Laila Shukry, who is a graduate student at Cornell University. Those are our guests with Mrs. Roosevelt on Thursday and uh it should be most interesting to hear the differences in--of opinion and where opinions coincide between these two visitors of the East Mediterranean and Mrs. Roosevelt. Mrs. Roosevelt and Elliott Roosevelt uh with us again tomorrow, where our guest is Mr. Krakeler from Germany, and every day Monday through Friday from 12:30 to 1:15 PM. Till tomorrow then, this is Ben Grauer bidding you good afternoon. (45:37)

[Break 45:37 to 45:51]

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