MRS. ROOSEVELT MEETS THE PUBLIC

April 15th, 1951

Description: In this episode, Elliott Roosevelt moderates as Senator William Benton, Senator Homer Ferguson, Senator Owen Brewster, and Congressman Samuel Yorty debate whether Truman was right in relieving General Douglas MacArthur of his command of United Nations forces in Korea. Elliott Roosevelt and his guests respond to questions asked by four representatives of a forum on women’s colleges hosted by Mademoiselle Magazine.

Participants: NBC Announcer, Elliott Roosevelt, Leslie Connery, Mary Lad, Rani Singh, Barbara Bounds, Senator William Benton, Senator Owen Brewster, Senator Homer Ferguson, Congressman Samuel Yorty

[NBC announcer:] [speaking over music] An hour spent between floors in the department store elevator radically changes the future of three women. It’s an hour of destiny, and you’ll enjoy this unusual drama in Philco TV Playhouse at nine tonight. You’ll see the slow unfolding of the true character of three completely different personalities in Hour of Destiny. [music stops] Join Mrs. Roosevelt now as she meets the public, WNBH New York, Channel Four.

[Theme music begins 31:28]

[NBC Announcer:] [speaking over music] Both public and congressional reaction to General Douglas MacArthur’s removal as Far Eastern commander has been varied and heated. To present and discuss the divergent views regarding this action, NBC Television brings you Mrs. Roosevelt Meets the Public, from the Colonial Room of the Park Sheraton Hotel in New York. In the absence of Mrs. Roosevelt, who is attending the United Nations Human Rights Committee meetings in Switzerland, Elliott Roosevelt will introduce today’s guests.

[music ends(32:18)]

(32:19)

[Elliott Roosevelt:] The reason for my appearing on this program today is to bring to you a message from my mother, who had to leave on Friday by air for Geneva, Switzerland, where she will attend a meeting of the Commission on Human Rights of the United Nations. Her message reads as follows: “I am unhappy at the prospect of not being with you all today. As my son will explain, I must be out of the country for the next few weeks. But I think I have been very lucky in arranging to bring you some outstanding personalities during my absence. Of course, there is one question uppermost in the minds of all Americans today: that is the deep disagreement concerning our American foreign policy in the Far East, which has been brought to a head by President Truman’s having relieved General of the Army Douglas MacArthur of all his commands.

Mademoiselle Magazine is conducting a forum in New York this week of representatives of women’s universities and colleges throughout the country. I have offered four of these young women the opportunity of substituting for me as hostesses, and of putting questions to a panel of four of our most distinguished statesmen in Washington. Their questions will probably be the same ones which you, the public, want to have clarified in your own minds. Two of these gentlemen will support the position of
President Truman. And two will support General MacArthur.” That is the end of the message from my mother.

And now, I’d like to introduce to our audience the four members of the Congress who my mother invited to appear today before her departure for Europe. Senator William Benton of Connecticut, sometimes referred to as “Mr. Democrat,” because his seat in the Senate was won in a very tight race last fall which threw the majority to the Democratic Party in the Senate. And then we have over here Senator Homer Ferguson of Michigan, a distinguished Republican who has represented his state and the nation for many years in the Senate. And we have on my right Senator Owen Brewster of the state of Maine, one of the leading Republican strategists in the Senate, and considered by all one of our ablest statesmen on Capitol Hill. And Congressman Samuel Yorty of California, considered to be one of the truly able Democratic representatives in the House.

And now I will introduce to you our four young lady [someone else coughs] hostesses, who have questions to ask our experts. I believe that the first young lady who has a question to ask is Mrs. Leslie Connery of Radcliffe College. Would you place your question to our experts?

[Leslie Connery:] Does the president of the United States have the authority to appoint and relieve a United Nations commander?

[Elliot Roosevelt:] Which of you senators [Elliot Roosevelt and Owen Brewster overlap] would like to start?

[Owen Brewster:] Well I’m -- I looked into that uh while I was there over the weekend; it apparently rests on the construction of the mandate given him by the United Nations, which was to designate a commander. And they have construed that as implied power to remove and to appoint again. It’s a matter of which the lawyers might argue endlessly, and -- but it’s been settled for the present by his action, I assume. (35:51)

[Homer Ferguson:] I would agree to that, but the power to appoint is the power to remove. It is not that question here that we are called upon to answer; I think the question is was it wisdom to remove the general?

[Samuel Yorty:] Well I would say in the interest of time that uh that’s a good answer uh Senator Ferguson, I think we could leave that question there and go on to the more important ones.

[William Benton:] I concur wholly.

[Elliot Roosevelt:] You do, Senator?

[William Benton:] I certainly do.

[Elliot Roosevelt:] Well, all right. Well then, we will go on and hear a question from Miss Mary Ladd of the University of Iowa.

[Mary Ladd:] Does the MacArthur dismissal mean a definite end to bipartisan foreign policy?

[Owen Brewster:] Well I uh would say -- I don’t want to take all these questions, [laughter] but I think that as far as Asia is concerned, there has never been any bipartisan foreign policy. As Senator [Arthur] Vandenberg repeatedly made it clear that he had not been consulted regarding our policy in the Orient,
and I think that has continued on down through so that the bipartisan policy has only been, thus far, in Europe. I hope we may move in another direction soon.

[Homer Ferguson:] I think, though, it raises this question: uh the question that has been asked, does the president have the right to defy public opinion in the formation of policy? If he has that right, then of course you can’t have bipartisan foreign policy. I think it raises this question also: will the president only allow those in the administration to give advice, for instance, to Congress or anyone else that agree with him? For instance, when he wanted the policy laid down from the uh Atlantic, he asked General Eisenhower to come to a joint meeting and give both sides: his judgment not only on political questions, but on military questions. Now when General MacArthur speaks out or wants to speak out, it’s an entirely different question. And I wonder how you’re going to have a bipartisan foreign policy when those with knowledge in the administration, if they don’t agree with the president, can’t speak out unless they’re going to be discharged as we found Mr. [Louis E.] Denfeld, Admiral Denfeld, was discharged for speaking out and telling Congress what he thought about the Navy about a year ago. (38:22)

[William Benton:] I may say to that question that uh I think we’ve got to define just what bipartisan foreign policy is. It is largely consisted of a reasonably unified Democratic Party uh in combination with uh a few eastern senators: with Senator Vandenberg, when he’s active, with Senator Morris [Owen Brewster: Not in-not in Asia.] Well, may I suggest that I think this action intensifies the feelings, the emotional feelings, of the group uh which was in strong opposition to the president in anyway; let me call it-- let us say the uh-uh with all respect to the omission of those present, the uh McCarthy, the Mac-Taft, Mac-Quary, Ma-ma-ma-MacArthur Group, and I will give you those four Macs uh for a greatly intensified feeling a-a-after this action.

[Homer Ferguson:] Well Bill-Bill, those words of yours, calling Senator [Robert] Taft “Mac-Taft” indicates the attitude of the Democrats to anyone who has the temerity to contradict any statement on any policy whether it’s domestic or foreign. You see, we--

[Samuel Yorty, William Benton, and Homer Ferguson all overlap]

[Samuel Yorty:] Well now, [unclear] --

[William Benton:] Well not at all, not at all! I-I-I --

[Homer Ferguson:] We shouldn’t make this partisan. We-we should try and analyze these problems.

[William Benton:] Are you suggesting that Senator Taft is not partisan?

[Homer Ferguson:] Well certainly he’s partisan, [William Benton: Well.] but I don’t think he’s partisan on this great issue of the foreign policy that you should call him “Mac.”

[Samuel Yorty:] Well Senator, [unclear] uh --

[William Benton:] I call him “Mac” because he’s perfectly echoed the views of MacArthur in his recent statements.

[Homer Ferguson:] Well because you-you want to convey to the public [someone coughs] the idea that Senator Taft was of the opinion that there were disloyal people in the government. Well I don’t think there’s any doubt, and I don’t think you doubt the fact that Russia’s main job is to put disloyal people, and the job of Congress and the administration is to get them out. (40:29)
[Samuel Yorty:] Senator, would you permit someone else to say something here just a second?

[Homer Ferguson:] Well, I’d like to have you say something on that question!

[Samuel Yorty:] I-I-I think that uh we’re missing the-the boat myself in uh getting away from the fact that the fundamental issue is whether the American foreign policy and the American military policy is going to be made by a commander in the field in Japan, or whether it’s going to be made constitutionally in Washington, which is still the capital of the United States. Now --

[Homer Ferguson:] Well now, is this an American war? You say America’s foreign policy?

[Samuel Yorty:] I want to -- may-may I speak without being interrupted just for a moment? [Homer Ferguson: Yes.] Now, I say this not in an unfriendly way toward General MacArthur. Uh I learned about General MacArthur not from one day or two-day trips out in the Pacific to see him as many Republican senators have done, uh they thereafter leave and issue all kinds of statements and nobody knows whether they’re issuing statements uh that parallel General MacArthur’s views, or whether they’re giving their own statements and making it appear that they’re General MacArthur’s views. To me, one of the best aspects of this whole controversy is that we’re at last going to find out what General MacArthur’s views are. Now, I served two years under his command, and part of the time at his headquarters. And I know as Hanson Baldwin says in the New York Times today, and I say this in a most kindly way, in MacArthur’s headquarters, it’s a one man show. I doubt if either one of you senators can tell me who the ground commander was of the sixth army under General MacArthur in the last war. When you’re under General MacArthur, you just don’t get publicity, uh you either work for him or you don’t work with him, [Owen Brewster: Now --] [laughter] [Homer Ferguson: Well, her-heresy!] and the president is having the same trouble.

[Owen Brewster:] Can I be permitted a word? [laughter] I did not come here today to attack Truman or defend MacArthur. I came here to discuss the fundamental question of our foreign policy. And I believe that the American public expect us to do that. [Homer Ferguson: That’s why I came here.] These men are all honorable men, and they’re all human men. Now can’t we address ourselves to the fundamental issue?

[William Benton:] I have one little side issue I’d like to ask Senator Brewster about before you get on, however: as your role as ex-chairman of the Republican Policy Committee, perhaps you’ll inform me on this, because I do have a personal interest -- I learned yesterday that General MacArthur is going to settle in Stanford, Connecticut. [laughter] He will become the most famous import into my state of Connecticut, as Secretary [Dean] Acheson may perhaps be called our most famous export, or perhaps Fuller Brush is our-our most famous export. But uh I would like to know, Senator Brewster, whether in the political arena, domestically, if we-if this question is legitimate -- if you have plans to develop him as a presidential candidate, it would be of great interest to me, or if you have plans to develop him as a senatorial candidate, in view of the fact that I must run for the Senate in November of next year. [laughter] That also would be of great interest to me! (43:27)

[laughter]

[Samuel Yorty:] I’d-I’d like --

[Owen Brewster:] Well if I were to be uh -- [William Benton: I just want to divert co-for one moment, the-the-the discussion to that subject.] If I uh-if I were to be facetious, I would adopt the language of President Roosevelt and say that I planned it that way. [laughter] But uh unfortunately, I think here again -- [William Benton: Why didn’t you put him in Kentucky? [laughs]] -- I think here again, we are bringing a personal and partisan note into it. Which I’m sure -- [William Benton: Right. Well.] -- Bill, you don’t
intend to bring in; I think General MacArthur should be left to chart his own course as he comes home, and I think we ought to discuss the great principles that are certainly vital to the American peoples.

William Benton: Well, I concur. (44:02)

[Elliott Roosevelt and Samuel Yorty overlap]

[Elliott Roosevelt:] Well then, uh-then you’re all --

[Samuel Yorty:] Well-uh Senator, don’t you agree though to this one thing that aside from the question of whether General MacArthur is right or not in what he advocated, we -- [Owen Brewster: It’s possible he may be, you know. It’s possible, he may be.] Yes. That’s right, I-I agree with that. [Owen Brewster: He knows a good deal about Asia.] Well, and I have great admiration for the man. But I say above and beyond the question of whether he’s right or not is the question of whether even if he is right, he can dictate to Washington from Japan what our military and foreign policy is to be.

[Homer Ferguson and Owen Brewster overlap]

[Homer Ferguson:] I-I-I --

[Owen Brewster:] That has nothing whatever-that has nothing whatever to do with this discussion. Whether General MacArthur did right or wrong, or President Truman did right or wrong -- we are now going to consider the policy on its merits. We’re not going to try MacArthur, we’re not going to try Truman. That comes next year. [Homer Ferguson: Yes.] [Samuel Yorty: Well --] Let’s take policy now.

[Homer Ferguson:] We’ve-we’ve got this big problem before us now. And it is a big problem. What should the policy be in the Pacific? That’s the question! [unclear: That’s right.] Whether or not we have a mission there, which the president until recently called a police action, now it’s a war. The question is can we carry out that mission? General MacArthur, General Ridgeway, General Stratemeyer have all said that in their opinion it is impossible to carry out the military mission, to carry out what the United Nations wants because of the political [Unknown speaker: limitations] handicap put in front of them. [Samuel Yorty: Well --] Now, one has been removed for expressing that opinion. Now we’re here to discuss what the opinion should be.

[Elliott Roosevelt], Homer Ferguson, and Samuel Yorty overlap]

[Elliott Roosevelt:] Well, I-I-I think -- uh --

[Homer Ferguson:] Not personalities.

[Samuel Yorty:] Well y-y-y-you do --

[Homer Ferguson:] General MacArthur shouldn’t speak for the Republican Party, nor should I speak for General MacArthur. What I want to speak about is this policy. What we can do to carry out the United Nations policy first of stopping aggression, second of unifying Korea!

[Elliott Roosevelt:] I think Senator that some of these [Homer Ferguson: That is the question.] young ladies have questions dealing directly with that, and uh maybe we ought to give them a [laughter] opportunity to ask them, and then you can get into specific opinions. Uh, so I’d like to ask my uh next young lady hostess, Miss Rani Singh of the Women’s College of the University of North Carolina, to ask her question.
[Rani Singh:] Did General MacArthur um violate any actual orders, or was he within his right as UN and Far Eastern Commander, in speaking out in defiance of administration policy? (46:43)

[Homer Ferguson:] I’d like to say something on that. I have found no claim that he ever violated any military order. I have knowledge in the press that they claim that he violated some of the uh orders from the White House in Washington in that he was speaking out. But if you’ll take the order of December, telling him not to make speeches and not to make public statements, I have never considered that his statement to Joe Martin in the House of Representatives letter was a [Unknown speaker: No.] statement at all. [William Benton: May I s --] Here’s what happened -- no no, here’s what happened --

[William Benton:] I don’t think it’s worth it belaboring at such length the- the [Homer Ferguson: Well, I-I think it is, see! I think --> Senator, if I could -- I well, I-I believe that sa-I believe that uh General MacArthur had a high loyalty to the Constitution and to the American people. And I do not believe the issue is whether he obeyed or disobeyed orders. I would like to think the issue, for the balance of this program, should take the form and line suggested -- [Homer Ferguson: Yes, but it-it-it-it’s been raised --> suggested by Senator – [William Benton and Owen Brewster overlap] Brewster.

[Owen Brewster:] Now, I think it gets personal; I think the young lady has asked a very wise question. [Homer Ferguson: Well, I-I’m trying to answer it.] In her -- well. But in emphasizing that this is the United Nations directive. We’ve heard a good deal about the president and the Joint Chiefs, but he took his directions from the United Nations, and on that score I see no suggestion that he had violated their directive. [Owen Brewster and Homer Ferguson overlap] That is think is a fundamental.

[Homer Ferguson:] Well that’s what I wanted to show, that he did not violate any directive.

[William Benton:] He’s-he’s a man of great brilliancy and experience, if he thought in the interests of the American people and the United Nations, his course of action was correc--[Homer Ferguson: So there is no disagreement.] I would like to discuss the course of action -- [Samuel Yorty: Well there-there certainly is.] -- rather than discuss the technical point of whether he obeyed orders or not.

[Samuel Yorty:] I-I don’t agree with that. In the military field uh in the-as an American commander, he should have been subject to the Joint Chiefs of Staff and to the president. [William Benton: Would you agree with this??] Uh and I think that it’s pretty well conceded that there was a great deal of friction uh between the president and the general, and it was a question of whether the general was going to be president, or whether the president was going to carry out his duties as president of the United States. Now I don’t think you can have commanders out in the field insisting upon uh directing the team or not playing on it at all.

[Unknown speaker:] Certainly.

[William Benton:] Congressman Yorty, didn’t he act like a man who wanted to be dismissed? [Samuel Yorty: Well --] He did these things month after month as if he was seeking the end objective of being recalled.

[Many voices talking over one another]

[Samuel Yorty:] Uh -- I-I think he wanted to be dismissed I said that -- [unclear]

[William Benton:] I think-I think his only record is that of a man who wanted to be dismissed.
[Homer Ferguson:] Unfair!

[Owen Brewster:] [unclear]

[Homer Ferguson:] I-I want to answer that by saying that that is attacking the loyalty -- [William Benton: No, I don’t agree.] [Samuel Yorty: No, no, not at all.] -- Well now, wait a minute ‘til I get through. [Samuel Yorty: Not at all.] Wait ‘til I get through. I don’t think there’s any doubt that that attacks the loyalty -- to say that this man, MacArthur, was doing these things so that he would be dismissed. He was doing this thing to end the war in Korea! [William Benton: Both those things could be true.] [Samuel Yorty: Well now- now just a minute, Senator -- Well --] No, it couldn’t be true! You-you must attack his loyalty if you say that he was doing it to get dismissed!

[Owen Brewster, William Benton, and Samuel Yorty overlap]

[Owen Brewster:] That question’s [unclear].

[William Benton:] I don’t accept that at all.

[Samuel Yorty:] No, no, you-you either-you either have to say uh that the man lacks the intelligence that I think he has, [William Benton: That’s right.] uh because he must have known as Walter Lippmann, and other thinking people, not just my idea, have pointed out that there was no compromise. [everyone overlaps] Either the president --

[unclear, all men overlap]

[Owen Brewster:] I think I have a word now! [laughter] [William Benton: I’d like to have to read this editorial in the Herald Tribune. I did not understand that the United Nations asked President Truman to direct this procedure. The United Nations asked the president to name a commander for the United Nations, and to carry out the directives of the United Nations, and no one thus far has challenged that General MacArthur did everything in his power to carry that out. Now how far the president of the Joint Chiefs had a right to intervene is another question. But I wish we could stick to the United Nations. (50:51)

[Unknown speaker:] On --

[Homer Ferguson:] The president could have named someone from England or France or any other of the United Nations in this uh procedure.

[William Benton and Homer Ferguson overlap Samuel Yorty]

[William Benton:] I think that’s a pretty technical point.

[Homer Ferguson:] No it isn’t!

[Samuel Yorty:] Well I-I think -I think that the president was given the authority uh to direct General MacArthur at least in some of his duties. [Owen Brewster: Not at all.] In Japan. [Owen Brewster: Not as the United Nations commander, not as the Allied commander.] I -- well I-I think the United Nations had permitted the president to do that, it was being done all of the time. [Owen Brewster: Not at all. Not at -- Well.] I think the Republicans are just begging the question in trying to get away from the fact that there
was an insubordinate commander in the field, and right or wrong, the civilian authority must be paramount, and the president had to remove it.

[Congressmen overlap]

[Elliott Roosevelt:] So we have agreed to disagree on this --

[Unknown speaker:] Congressman, you already [unclear] --

[William Benton] Republican Herald Tribune agrees with us on-on -- in its leading editorial of last Thursday.

[laughter]

[Elliott Roosevelt:] I think that’s as much time as we can devote to that question because Miss --

[Homer Ferguson:] I would like to read an editorial from some Michigan papers on this question. [Elliott Roosevelt laughs]

[William Benton:] Well I’m sorry I didn’t bring one from Connecticut.

[laughter]

[Elliott Roosevelt:] I-I would like uh Miss Barbara Bounds of Allegheny College to have an opportunity to ask you a question, because I think that you’ll find that her question is a -- reaches the very crux of the problem of what you gentlemen want to discuss today.(52:03)

[Barbara Bounds:] Well, specifically, General MacArthur is supposed to have advocated first of all the bombardment of mobilization points in China, [William Benton: I’m sure.] and second of all the supplying of Chiang Kai Shek with-for guerilla activities in China, and third, the blockading of China. Now, isn’t it true that this is going to bring us closer to a third world war?

[Homer Ferguson:] Well, I’d like to answer that. [laughter] He found himself --

[William Benton:] May I restate it? “Is it true or isn’t it true” would be a better way to state the question. [laughs]

[Homer Ferguson:] What—what uh -- of course, the president has said that it would bring us to a third world war. General MacArthur feels, from his statement, that we are in the beginning of a third world war. [someone coughs] And the only way that you can carry out this mission is by bombing the sanctuaries in Manchuria, where the planes and the men are being mobilized to come across the river to attack our men. And the next question is: here is an ally-- Nationalist China, with troops, that wants to start a diversionary force on the mainland of China. Should we keep them from going into China? Will that start a war? Let me say this: that Red China and Nationalist China fought from the end of the war until just about a year ago, and it didn’t bring Russia into the war. I know of no way of telling a direct and complete answer to your question, but I’ll say this in my opinion: the Russians -- Moscow is going to determine whether or not Russia comes in, and it won’t be from any act that we perform or do. Or any that Nationalist China does. Russia will determine when they’re going to fight America, and they’ll determine that on their own strategy instead of waiting to decide what we may do.

[Elliott Roosevelt:] Senator Benton?’
[William Benton:] Well of course, nobody knows the answer to that question; it’s highly speculative and uncertain, as these very complicated problems are. The weight of the evidence of the most experienced people in the world today I believe is overwhelmingly on the side that the risk of the World War III is the greater if we proceed with General MacArthur’s policy. It doesn’t follow that MacArthur may not be right. But the overwhelming weight of opinion -- the Indian people and their diplomats, the French people and their diplomats, the British people and their diplomats, our four key men on our own Joint Chiefs of staff, our own president, our own experts in the field of foreign policy. Now, I think that what General MacArthur is proposing -- first, I think he puts too much emphasis on conquest and on military force, which is perhaps quite natural for a man after half a century in the army, but secondly, he says, “Let us end the little war in Korea by starting right now a big war in China.” Further --

[Homer Ferguson:] Well Bill, who started the war in Korea?

[William Benton:] Well, it seems to me pretty self-evident that the -- [Homer Ferguson: Certainly MacArthur didn’t start the war.] -- that the communist-that the communist -- it was part of a communist plan of conquest. Those North Koreans came down having been prepared for months and months, if not for years for that attack. So it-it was part of the communist design, but let-let me just -- you start a big war-- now I would be against General Eisenhower unequivocally if he wanted to start a big war now in Europe. Whether the big war is started in Europe or in Asia, I am against starting it. The American people, in my judgment, need to show much more patience with these terribly complicated problems.

[Owen Brewster:] I uh -- I am intrigued -- And let’s not -- let's not get the World War III we are trying to avoid inevitably jammed down our throats by starting it anyplace we don’t have to.

[Owen Brewster:] I am intrigued by your suggestion, Bill, that we can have little wars and big wars. They’re -- that's a rather difficult thing. I am further very du -- [William Benton: It’s not [unclear] thing.] -- I am further -- now, if I may have a word -- [William Benton: Yes.] very dubious about the demonstrated capacity of the democratic party as now constituted to keep us out of war in view of the fact that we have had three democratic administrations in my lifetime, and we’ve had two world wars under them, and we’re well on our to apparently toward a third. Now, I do not see where you’ve demonstrated any expert-ness in keeping us out. [William Benton laughs] nor the dip-nor the diplomats of England who likewise got us involved. I think the time has come when the American people have got to get all the evidence. Now, before I decide on the acceptance of the calculated risk -- which I agree exists, [Unknown speaker: Yes, yes, yes.] as to what we do -- we didn’t start this in Korea, it was your president who started the war in Korea. [William Benton: We’ll that’s an amazing statement. [laughter]] Now the question is who’s gonna finish it! Now that’s what we’re after: how most quickly to finish it with the least cost in men and material. And I would like to hear the full and untrammeled presentation of General MacArthur, whom I think everyone will agree knows more about the Orient than any other living American, having spent most of his re-later life out there, and also something about communism in view of the amazing job he has done in Japan, which is in better shape than any of our other enemies today, and more wildly desirous of cooperating with us. [Samuel Yorty: Uh, may I--] Therefore, I think we ought to hear fully from MacArthur before any of us pre-judge this question.

[Samuel Yorty:] Uh may I say, Senator, that I think uh general knows quite a bit about Asia, but he is capable of mistakes [Owen Brewster: Certainly. And even Truman is.] Uh, he did tell the president -- well, absolutely. Uh the general told the president uh that the Chinese would not intervene if the general went on to the Yalu. But they did intervene; the president said in an aside the other night, not in his prepared remarks at the Jackson Dinner, uh that, “I was told on very good authority, and I believed it, that the Chinese would not come in, but they did.” Now, you’re telling us that the Russians will not come in -- [Owen Brewster: I haven’t said that. I didn’t say that.] Uh, my point -- I realize you didn’t. Uh I mean -- (58:31)
[Elliott Roosevelt:] ‘Scuse me, I think we must bring this to a close, I’m sorry that our time has just about run out --

[William Benton:] May I say, it’s the first time I’ve ever heard the Democrats accused of responsibility for Kaiser -- [Elliott Roosevelt laughs] the Kaiser, Stalin, and Hitler.

[laughter]

[Elliott Roosevelt:] Well, thank you all very much, and especially --

[Homer Ferguson:] Bill, what you want to do is to make this thing purely partisan. I disagree --

[Elliott Roosevelt:] I’m terribly sorry, I’m afraid we have to go off the air in just a second. [laughter] And I want to thank you all for coming here, Senator Brewster, Senator Ferguson, Senator Benton, and Congressman Yorty, and thank you young ladies, and I want to say that next week we have uh Senator Margaret Chase Smith of Maine acting as Mother’s hostess, along with Senator [Estes] Kefauver, who will participate on a program on moral fiber. Thank you all for being here, and I hope you’ll be back with us next Sunday at three-thirty.

[Theme music 59:21-1:00:07]

[Theme music begins again 1:00:12]

[NBC Announcer:] [speaking over music] Next week, at this same time, NBC Television will again present Mrs. Roosevelt Meets the Public. In the absence of Mrs. Roosevelt, Senator Margaret Chase Smith, Republican from Maine, will act as moderator; with Senator Estes Kefauver, Democrat of Tennessee, as one of the participating guests. Portions of today’s program, which originated in the Colonial Room of the Park Sheraton Hotel in New York, were on motion picture film.

[Theme music ends 1:00:52]

[NBC Announcer:] NBC Television.

[NBC chimes]

(1:00:59)