Letter, John F. Kennedy to Eleanor Roosevelt, December 15, 1961. In this letter, President Kennedy thanks Mrs. Roosevelt for agreeing to chair the President's Commission on the Status of Women. ER's handwritten note instructs her secretary to draft a response thanking JFK and expressing regret about his father's recent stroke - which took place while the President was meeting with Britain's Prime Minister in Bermuda. JFK's father, Joseph P. Kennedy, served in the Roosevelt administration.