

*Administration of Joseph R. Biden, Jr., 2024*

**Remarks and an Exchange With Reporters Prior to Departure for Notre Dame, Indiana**

*October 5, 2024*

*The President.* I'm going to a wedding. The woman running my office is marrying Jill's policy guy. It's dangerous to work in our office.

*Hostages Held by Hamas in Gaza, Palestinian Territories*

*Q.* What is your message to the families of the hostages ahead of Monday, October 7?

*[At this point, several reporters began speaking at once.]*

*The President.* I've been talking—I'll be talking to a bunch of them.

*Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel*

*Q.* Mr. President, have you talked to Netanyahu already?

*The President.* No.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:31 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House prior to boarding Marine One. In his remarks, he referred to Deputy Director of Oval Office Operations Julia S. Reed; and Director of Strategic Planning and Senior Policy Adviser for the Office of the First Lady John C. Scanlon. The transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 7. Audio was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

*Categories:* Interviews With the News Media : Exchanges with reporters, White House.

*Locations:* Washington, DC.

*Names:* Biden, Jill T.; Reed, Julia S.; Scanlon, John C.

*Subjects:* Deputy Director of Oval Office Operations; Gaza, hostages held by Hamas; News media, Presidential interviews; Office of the First Lady.

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