

Remarks on Presenting the Medal of Sacrifice and an Exchange With Reporters
May 19, 2025

The President. Well, thank you very much, everybody. It's a real honor to welcome all of you to the White House, the famous Oval Office.

And we award the first-ever Medals of Sacrifice to three heroic law enforcement officers from Palm Beach County, Florida. I went to the service. It was crazy. It was just horrible.

Earlier today Congressman Brian Mast, who's right here, introduced a bill to ensure this new medal will be awarded to any law enforcement officer or first responder who gives his or her life in the line of duty.

I also want to recognize Lara and Eric Trump for their work to make this medal reality. Thank you, Lara. And thank you, Eric. Appreciate it very much.

Thanks as well to Attorney General Pam Bondi, who's with us. Pam, thank you very much. Appreciate it. So busy. She's so busy, but she wouldn't miss it.

Secret Service Director Sean Curran. Sean, wherever you may be—hi, Sean.

Congressman Byron Donalds. State Representative Meg Weinberger and Dan Newlin. Thank you. Thank you, Dan. Thank you, everybody. Thank you, Byron. Thank you, every—really great that you're here.

I also want to express our gratitude to Major Paul Vrchota. Where is Paul? Paul? Thank you, Paul. Captain Ryan Mugridge. Thank you, Captain. Lieutenant Shandon Hood. Thank you, Shandon. Sergeant Scott Yoder.

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Sergeant Scott Yoder. Thank you, sir.

The President. Thank you very much, Sergeant.

Deputy Sheriff Christopher Farron. Thank you very much, Christopher. And Deputy Sheriff Chris Cameron. Thank you very much. Thank you.

And all of the Palm Beach Sheriff's Office. We have many people here representing that incredible office. I know it very well.

Very special thanks as well to Alexandre Arnault, who's a tremendous person, with her father—with his father, who—they own Tiffany, and they really devoted tremendous time and effort to helping us design this beautiful medal. And thank you very much, Alexandre—appreciate that you came—came all the way from France—and the incredible team at Tiffany and Company.

And Tiffany is doing great. He's a fantastic leader. You know all about the fantastic—the great Arnault family. And the fact that you came for this is a very—very meaningful, actually. It's really incredible—but for crafting this beautiful medal, and I know he looked at it and he worked on it and he had his best people working on it, and people are loving it.

And this will go on for a long time. You'll be making that medal for a long time, unfortunately. In one way, it's very sad, but we properly respect the ones that have lost their lives.

Today we also remember three remarkable heroes who will become the medal's first-ever recipients, so it's a big honor: Corporal Luis Paez, Jr.; Deputy Sheriff Ralph "Butch" Waller, Jr.; and Deputy Sheriff Ignacio "Dan" Diaz. And thank you very much. They're represented by family

members who are—I was there with them. They were—that was devastation. They were devastated.

We're profoundly grateful to be joined by their loved ones.

Corporal Paez's former wife Doris. Thank you, Doris, for being with us. Thank you very much. Thank you. And his son Cameron—good-looking son too.

Deputy Waller's wife Denise. Thank you, Denise, very much.

And Deputy Diaz's daughter Alexandria. Thank you. Thank you very much. I want to thank you all.

And the three officers we recognize today were close friends. They were really close friends and colleagues. And together, they dedicated their lives to protecting the people of Palm Beach County and well beyond. And they were beloved by everyone and respected by all. Really, really top-of-the-line people.

Countless times when I was in Florida, they proudly saved—and they saved a lot of lives. They were going around saving a lot of lives. Their reputation was incredible. They served in motorcades for Presidents—called "Presidential motorcades"—a very dangerous job, actually. And I was deeply honored to attend their memorial service last year.

In a horrific accident, in November, the three officers were working to restart one of their motorcycles on the shoulder of a road when they were struck by a SUV—struck dead center—and all three perished from their injuries. Essentially, they perished immediately.

This was a terrible tragedy. It was—it shook the entire Palm Beach community like very, very few events I've ever seen. All of Florida mourned their loss, and today our entire Nation joins in honoring these three incredible patriots taken from us much too soon. Much, much too soon.

To Doris, Cameron, Denise, Alexandria, and to all of those who love these brave men, we are deeply sorry for your loss and eternally grateful for their sacrifice—their great, great sacrifice. Just respected by everybody. We'll never forget their legacy, and we will never forget the debt we owe all of these great law enforcement heroes who have given their lives to keep our communities safe and make America strong again.

We have so many unbelievable people in the police department and other departments—first responders, firemen—a lot of brave, incredible people.

And I'd now like to ask my son, Eric Trump, to say a few words, followed by Congressman Brian Mast and Alexandre Arnault, who's going to be giving out the medals, then I'll present the Medals of Sacrifice.

Thank you very much, everybody. Thank you for being here too. Thank you.

Please.

Eric F. Trump. Mr. President, thank you very much.

My father and I attended that funeral that day, and I can't tell you how moving that experience was. And one simple question was asked: Why is there no medal—Medal of Valor, Medal of Sacrifice—that commemorates law enforcement officers, first responders who have fallen in the line of duty?

[At this point, Eric Trump continued his remarks, concluding as follows.].

Many of us knew them, have met them, and we love them very much. And I'm— sure they're missed. But today, hopefully, this is a great tribute to them. And I know, because of our wonderful President, that this medal will be given now for many years to come.

Thank you very much.

The President. Thank you.

Please.

Representative Brian J. Mast. I would just start by thanking all of our law enforcement officers. The job is always dangerous, and you do it still every single day.

And I would thank the families, because the job, as you are a reminder of, is often deadly.

And I would thank you, Mr. President, because for the first time in our Nation's history, you're willing to say to all of our first responders, all of our law enforcement, all of our firefighters, "We're going to recognize that sacrifice from the office of the Presidency for each and every one of them." And that's never taken place before, that recognition, that it's a—a job that's always dangerous and often deadly, and there's a debt that can never be repaid, but you're willing to recognize that debt. So thank you, Mr. President——

The President. Thank you very much.

Rep. Mast. ——for recognizing the debt.

The President. Appreciate it. Thank you.

Moët Hennessy Deputy Chief Executive Officer Alexandre Arnault. Mr. President, congressmen, thank you very much for involving Tiffany in this process. We're very honored for—to having made these medals. Tiffany is a jeweler, as everyone knows it, but also a maker of American heritage. We were making the Medal of Honor in the 19th and early 20th century, and it's only natural that we followed with this heritage, just as we work on other very important American heirlooms.

This medal was made in Providence, Rhode Island, in our largest factory in the U.S., out of silver, plated in 24-karat gold, just like the ceiling of this office, and represents the coat of arms of the United States.

Mr. President, thank you very much.

The President. Thank you very much.

Byron, would you like to say a few words, please?

Representative Byron Donalds. First, to be brief, to the families, we are so sorry for your sacrifice, but your officer from your family represented not just Palm Beach County but the United States with honor.

Mr. President, thank you for allowing this to go forward.

To my colleague, Congressman Mast, thank you for your leadership. We will always honor first responders in the United States of America.

The President. Thank you very much. Thanks, Byron.

Okay. So——

[*The President picked up a box containing the Medal of Sacrifice, but could not open it.*]

You want to help us out with this?

Mr. Arnault. Other side.

The President. You're the one that made it. [*Laughter*] That's good. That's beautiful.

So can we ask the families to step forward, please? Sheriff, would you like to help us with that? Come on, please.

Thank you very much. Why don't you grab that.

[*The President presented the Medal of Sacrifice to Cameron Paez, son of Medal of Sacrifice recipient Luis Paez, Jr., and posed for a photograph.*]

Mr. Paez. Thank you, sir.

The President. The first families. Right?

Mr. Paez. Thank you, sir. Really appreciate it.

The President. Thank you very much.

Thank you very much. You take care of yourself. Okay? Thank you very much.

Sheriff, thank you. You'll help us.

Okay. You want to stand right over here?

[*The President picked up a box containing the Medal of Sacrifice and opened it.*]

Okay. You're not going to get me. [*Laughter*]

[*The President presented the Medal of Sacrifice to Denise S. Waller, wife of Medal of Sacrifice recipient Ralph "Butch" Waller, Jr.*]

Ms. Waller. Thank you.

The President. You take it.

Ms. Waller. Thank you. I have one for you too.

The President. Oh, thank you.

Ms. Waller. [*Inaudible*]

The President. Thank you very much. I'll put it here. Thank you very much.

Ms. Waller. You're welcome.

[*The President and Ms. Waller posed for a photograph.*]

Thank you.

The President. Thank you.

Ms. Waller. Thank you for honoring him.

The President. Would you like to say anything?

Ms. Waller. I would like to thank you very much for honoring my husband and his brothers and for what you do for the country and making this so very special for them and for all the people to come. It's a club you never want to be in.

The President. No. You don't want that.

Ms. Waller. But you've honored them, and it just means the world. Thank you. Thank you for everything.

The President. Your husband was great.

Ms. Waller. I know.

The President. Thank you very much.

Ms. Waller. Thank you.

The President. Appreciate it.

Palm Beach County, FL, Deputy Sheriff Christopher Farron. Thank you, sir. Thank you.

Ms. Waller. Thank you.

The President. Thank you very much.

Would you like you to say something about your father?

Mr. Paez. Do you want me to go over there or here?

The President. Come on over here. [*Laughter*] Come on over here.

Mr. Paez. To the mike?

The President. Right here.

Mr. Paez. I viewed my dad as Superman—someone, my whole life, you look up to. He's an amazing guy, and I—it's horrible that this happened to all three families, but I'm glad that something was done about it and we got represented, and everyone in the future will be. So thank you.

The President. Thank you very much. He would be very proud of you. Thank you.

Please. Thank you, darling.

Alexandria Diaz. [*Inaudible*]

The President. Thank you very much.

Participant. Thank you, sir. Thank you, sir.

Participant. Thank you, Mr. President.

The President. Thank you very much.

Participant. Thank you, sir.

The President. Thank you very much.

[*The President presented the Medal of Sacrifice to Alexandria Diaz, daughter of Medal of Sacrifice recipient Ignacio "Dan" Diaz, and posed for a photograph.*]

Thank you very much.

Ms. Diaz. Thank you.

The President. Your father would be proud of you.

Ms. Diaz. Thank you.

The President. Would you like to say anything from us on behalf of the force? Would you like say something?

Ms. Diaz. No, no.

The President. It's a very tough thing to do. I know. [*Laughter*]

Would you like to say something? Please.

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Major Paul Vrchota. Mr. President, on behalf of Sheriff Ric Bradshaw and every member of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, we can't thank you enough for taking the lead on this and recognizing the extreme sacrifice of our three brothers. Words really can't express how thankful we are.

The President. Thank you very much.

And we have a fourth, and we're going to give this to you. Hopefully, it's maybe never going to be given out. But we'll give it to Sheriff Bradshaw, who's an incredible sheriff. And you've done an amazing job, and we'll have it, should something happen. And that's right here. Okay?

Maj. Vrchota. Yes, sir.

The President. So we'll——

Maj. Vrchota. Thank you.

The President. And I hope it never has to be given out, frankly. Thank you very much.

Maj. Vrchota. Thank you, Mr. President.

The President. Thank you very much.

Maj. Vrchota. Thank you, Mr. President.

Participant. Mr. President.

The President. Well, thank you. Do you have any questions for what you just saw? That's so—so important. I mean, people have talked about it for years.

I want to thank Brian Mast for what he's done—Congressman. He's been unbelievable. He's a great representative that—and he worked hard. He wanted to do it right. And we wanted to go—somehow, we could—we could get them done pretty easily in one way, but we wouldn't get them done by Tiffany.

And the fact that the Arnault family stepped up was absolutely incredible. It means more when you get the—a name like that, it means—I think it means something extra.

But these were incredible people, and they're looking down on you right now, and they're very, very proud—very, very proud of all of you. And it's too bad we had to be doing this, but I was there with you that day. That was a rough day.

Thank you very much.

Would you have any questions?

Yes.

Honoring Law Enforcement Officers

Q. Mr. President, do you have plans to give this award to any other families posthumously who find themselves in the same position as having made this sacrifice? And then after, I'd like to ask you one question about your call today.

The President. Having to do from a previous?

Q. Yes.

The President. We're looking at the possibility of that, yes.

Q. And under——

The President. You've got a lot of people—a lot of people die in the line of duty, when you think of it. And we figured it was time to start. We haven't had the situation arise. This was a terrible situation. We haven't had it arise yet, but we're looking at going back a little bit and seeing what we can do about that. Yes. We'll—strongly.

Q. And then——

The President. Yes, go ahead.

Russia/Ukraine/Pope Leo XIV

Q. And then on your call with President Putin today.

The President. Yes.

Q. You've mentioned that the Pope would like to take a role, potentially, in mediating these talks. Does that mean that the U.S. is taking a step back from——

The President. No, no, no. I think it would be great to have it at the Vatican. Maybe it would have some extra significance. And I saw that it was discussed yesterday, so I thought—and people told me that they'd be honored to do it. I—would imagine they would be.

So, no, I think it would be maybe helpful. There's tremendous bitterness, anger, and I think maybe that could help some of that anger. So having it at the Vatican would be—in Rome would be a very—I think it'd be a great idea.

Thank you.

Q. Mr. President——

Q. Mr. President——

The President. Yes.

Q. ——as you know——

Q. First off, can I say——

The President. Go ahead.

Russia/Ukraine

Q. Thank you, Mr. President. As you know, 2½ months ago, Ukraine President Zelenskyy agreed to that 30-day cease-fire that's been on the table all of that time. What was the extent of your conversation with President Putin today about having him agree to that same 30-day cease-fire proposal that you, Mr. President, put on the table?

The President. Well, what we've done, and very strongly, is we said, "Let's get this thing going." You know, I had many of the leaders of European nations on the line with me right after the call, and we have to get that thing solved. Five thousand young people every single week—on average, five—and I've seen satellite pictures. You don't want to see these pictures.

We'll have to see what happens. It's—this was not my war. This is not a war that would have happened if I were President. This is not my war. I'm just here to try and help.

We've spent hundreds of billions of dollars on this war, and yet, that's not—frankly, we made much more than that just in 4 days in the Middle East. It's a lot of money, but it's—we're—we do much. This is about thousands of people dying every single week—5,000, 6,000 people dying every single week.

And just like you have the relatives here—wives and children and everything—you have—you know, these soldiers, they say goodbye, in Ukraine and in Russia, and then their parents

never see them again, except maybe in pictures of horrible scenes. Because I've seen some scenes. I've never seen anything like it.

So we're going to see if we can get it taken care of.

Yes, please.

Q. First off, our thanks to the members of law enforcement who are here and our condolences to the families. We're very sorry for your loss.

The President. Good.

Russia/Ukraine

Q. Mr. President, on Ukraine and on your call today that you had with President Putin. You said last week that you thought nothing was going to happen, no advances would be made until you and Putin got together. Do you still feel that way?

The President. I think something's going to happen. It's a very—you've got very big egos involved, I tell you. Big egos involved. But I think something's going to happen. And if it doesn't, I'd just back away, and they're going to have to keep going.

Again, this was a European situation. It should have remained a European situation. It should have remained. But we have—because the past administration felt very strongly that we should be involved, and we got involved much more than Europe did, in terms of the money and all of the things that we gave. We gave massive amounts—I think record-setting amounts given to a foreign—there's never been anything like this—both weaponry and money.

And Europe gave a lot also, but they didn't give anywhere near what we gave. We gave probably almost three times the amount. And it's just a shame. The whole thing is a shame.

Q. Did you ask President Putin to meet?

The President. The level of death here is just a shame.

Yes?

President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin of Russia

Q. Did you ask President Putin to meet with you?

The President. About what?

Q. About Ukraine.

The President. Yes, of course I did. I talked to him about it. I said, "When are we going to end this, Vladimir?" I've known him for a long time now. I said, "When are we going to end this bloodshed, this—bloodbath?" It's a bloodbath. And I do believe he wants to end it.

You know, when I made the call, I told the people last night—I spoke to the heads of the different countries, Germany and Finland. We had Italy, as you know, and U.K. was the—on the line today and a couple of others. And then they were, in turn, calling the—everyone. Ursula was there from the European Union. She was terrific.

And we—you know, we spoke for a long time about it. And they got a problem. It's a big, big problem. It's a terrible war. It's very hard to extricate themselves away from what's taken place over there. The amount of—anger, the amount of hate, and the amount of death. It's very hard, very tough situation.

But I said to him, "We've got to get going." And I—and I did say also, "If I thought that you couldn't do it, I'd step away," because what are you going to do? We don't have boots on the ground. We wouldn't have boots on the ground. But we do have a big stake.

And the financial amount that was put up is—it's just crazy. It's crazy.

Q. Do you want to——

The President. This isn't for us. This is for somebody else. The amount of money that we put up is record-setting. There's never been anything like this, and that includes weapons. Never been anything like this.

Yes, please.

Ukraine/U.S. Security Assistance/Hamas Attacks of October 7, 2023, on Israel

Q. Mr. President, on the medal, how far back do you intend to look to consider for the recipients? And then, on your call today, if Putin ultimately proves to be the obstacle to peace, is further arming Ukraine on the table at that point?

The President. Well, we'll look. I mean, we're going to look. I hope that—I like to think positively, frankly. I just can't believe that they allow this to continue.

This would have never happened if I were President, and most people admit that. It would have—and it didn't happen for 4 years. And October 7 would have never happened either. That's the attack on Israel. That would have never happened. So sad. A lot of things wouldn't have happened, but so sad to see it.

No, I think that there's a good chance we can get this done. I believe Putin wants to do it. Now, if I thought Putin didn't want—I mean, that's what I do. My whole life is like deals. One big deal. And if I thought that President Putin did not want to get this over with, I wouldn't—I wouldn't even be talking about it——

Q. What did you hear that——

The President. ——because I'd—just pull out.

Russia/Ukraine

Q. What did you hear that gave you confidence that he does want peace versus buying time?

The President. I think he's had enough. I think he's had enough. This has been a long time. This has been going on for more than 3 years. When you think—right?—it's been going on for a long time.

Yes, please.

President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin of Russia

Q. Oh, thank you, Mr. President. When you implored him to stop previously—"Vladimir, stop!"—on social media and—he didn't, he just continued, I'm curious, did you bring that up with him in your phone call today?

The President. I can't—you have to talk up.

Q. Sorry. You previously, on Truth Social, implored President Putin to stop. You wrote, "Vladimir, stop!"——

The President. Yes.

Q. —and he didn't stop. Quite the contrary. I'm curious, did you bring that up on your call with him today? And——

The President. No. No, I didn't bring that up, but I did say: "It's time. You've got to stop this thing." And I believe he wants to stop.

Look, I would be, I think, very able to tell whether or not he wanted to or what—I thought there was a very good chance, like a 50/50 chance, that he would say, "I want to take the whole thing." I didn't know what he was going to say. And then they have a different kind of a problem.

But I believe he wants to stop. Pretty sure.

Russia/Ukraine

Q. And you've mentioned twice just now about backing away or walking away if it looks like it's going to be an intractable problem. Do you have a redline in your head of what would cause you to back away and what——

The President. Yes, in my head, but not something I'm going to announce.

Q. Can you share?

The President. But yes, definitely in my head I do. Yes.

Q. And what exactly would that look like?

The President. Because this isn't our war. This is not my war. This is not the war—I mean, we got ourselves entangled in something that we shouldn't have been involved in, and we would have been a lot better off, and I—maybe the whole thing would have been better off, because it can't be much worse. It's a real mess. It's a death trap.

Q. And what exactly——

The President. So I think that—yes, I would say I do have a certain line, but I don't want to say what that line is, because I think it makes the negotiation even more difficult than it is.

Yes, please.

Russia/Ukraine

Q. Mr. President—and thank you all for your sacrifice. I'm so sorry for your loss and everybody.

You've mentioned the bloodbath that you want to see end in Ukraine. You mentioned that you believe Putin wants peace, but he just attacked Ukraine yesterday, so what makes you think that he wants peace?

The President. Well, he's in a war. You know, I mean, it's—nobody said, "Don't." It's—they're fighting, they're attacking—they're attacking each other, and people are dying all the time. You know, he's in a war. He's fighting a war. Nobody said he was going to stop.

I think—is it terrible? Yes, it's terrible. I do—I think it's terrible.

Yes.

Q. Can you weigh in on President Biden?

The President. Please.

Russia/Ukraine

Q. President Biden was diagnosed with cancer——

Q. Just one quick one on the—war, and then I want to ask you about reconciliation. Why haven't you increased the sanctions on Russia yet?

The President. Well, because I think there's a chance of getting something done, and then if you do that, you can also make it much worse. But there could be a time where that's going to happen.

Yes.

Q. Mr. President, with the ratings——

Q. On President Biden, sir——

The President. No——

Q. Mr. President, with the ratings downgrade from——

The President. I was going to say, go—ahead, please.

Q. ——from Moody's——

Former President Joseph R. Biden, Jr./The President's Annual Physical Exam

Q. Do you want to respond to President Biden being diagnosed with cancer? Are you going to call your—predecessor?

The President. I think it's very sad, actually. I'm surprised that it wasn't—you know, the public wasn't notified a long time ago, because to get to stage 9, that's a long time.

I just had my physical. You saw that. You saw the results of that particular test. I think that test is standard to pretty much anybody getting a physical—good physical.

We had the doctors at the White House and over at Walter Reed, which is a fantastic hospital. I do it—I did a very complete physical, including cognitive tests. I'm proud to announce I aced it. Got them all—I got them all right. You proud of me? Yes, your husband would be proud of me for getting them all right.

It's a little risk. If I didn't get them all right, these people would be after me. It would be not a good situation.

But I think, frankly, anybody running for President should act—you know, take a cognitive test. They say it's unconstitutional, but I would say in that particular case, having a cognitive test wouldn't be so bad.

But when you take tests—medical, as a male, that test is very standard. I don't know if it's given to everybody, but it's given just about. And it takes a long time to get to that situation.

Now, I think, you know, to get to a stage 9—I think that, if you take a look, it's the same doctor that said that Joe was cognitively fine; there was nothing wrong with him. Well, he said—if it's the same doctor, he said there was nothing wrong there, and that's being proven to be a sad situation.

And the autopen is becoming a very big deal. You know, the autopen is becoming a big deal, because it seems like that maybe was the President, whoever operated the autopen.

But when they say that that was not good, they also—you know, you have to look and you have to say then the test was not so good either. In other words, there are things going on that the public wasn't informed. And I think somebody is going to have to speak to his doctor, if it's the same, or even if it's two separate doctors: Why wasn't the cognitive ability—why wasn't that discussed? And I think the doctor said he's just fine, and it's turned out that's not so. It's very dangerous.

Look, this is no longer politically correct. This is dangerous for our country. Look at the mess we're in. You're talking about all these questions on Ukraine and Russia. That would have never happened. As an example, if I were President, it would have never happened.

The other thing is you have to say, why did it take so long—I mean, when you—this takes a long time, can take years to get to this level of danger.

So it's a—look, it's a very, very sad situation, and I feel very badly about it.

And I think people should try and find out what happened, because I'll tell you, the—I don't know if it had anything to do with the hospital. Walter Reed is really good. They're some of the best doctors I've ever seen. I don't even know if they were involved. But a doctor was involved in each case—maybe it was the same doctor—and somebody is not telling the facts. That's a big problem.

[Several reporters began asking questions at once.]

Q. Do believe President Biden had——

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy of Ukraine

Q. Mr. President, in—President Zelenskyy of Ukraine says that—the Ukrainians are ready for a ceasefire, and that they're ready for peace negotiations. In your mind, is Ukraine doing enough to get this—peace deal done?

The President. I'd rather tell you in about 2 weeks from now, because I can't say yes or no. I think—look, he's a strong person—Zelenskyy—a strong guy. And he's not the easiest person to deal with, but I think that he wants to stop.

He's, you know, not—it's a very bad—it's ver —bad thing that's happening over there. I think he wants to stop. But I—could answer that question better in 2 weeks or 4 weeks from now. I hope the answer is that he wants to get it solved.

I want to thank everybody very much. And, on behalf of the United States of America, we greatly honor your family and your friends and everybody that had to suffer so much, but you have some—three great men that are looking down on you, and they're—very proud right now. They're very proud.

This is the Oval Office, and they're a big part of it now. They're a part of the Oval Office, the White House.

And thank you all very much. Thank you.

Thank you, Sheriff, for coming.

Thank you very much, everybody. Thank you. Thank you, fellas.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:56 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Daniel J. Newlin, injury attorney, Newlin Law; Bernard Arnault, chairman and chief executive officer, LVMH Moët Hennessy–Louis Vuitton; Doris Mendez-DeMaio, wife of Medal of Sacrifice recipient Luis Paez, Jr.; President Ursula von der Leyen of the European Commission; President Emmanuel Macron of France; Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni of Italy; Chancellor Friedrich Merz of Germany; President Alexander Stubb of Finland; Prime Minister Keir Starmer of the United Kingdom; and Kevin C. O'Connor, former physician to former President Biden. The transcript was released by the Office of Communications on May 20.

Categories: Addresses and Remarks : Medal of Sacrifice presentation; Interviews With the News Media : Exchanges with reporters, White House.

Locations: Washington, DC.

Names: Arnault, Alexandre; Arnault, Bernard; Biden, Joseph R., Jr.; Bondi, Pamela J.; Curran, Sean M.; Diaz, Alexandria; Donald, Byron; Farron, Christopher; Hood, Shandon; Macron, Emmanuel; Mast, Brian J.; Meloni, Giorgia; Mendez-DeMaio, Doris; Merz, Friedrich; Mugridge, Ryan; Newlin, Dan; O'Connor, Kevin C.; Paez, Cameron; Putin, Vladimir Vladimirovich; Starmer, Keir; Stubb, Alexander; Trump, Eric F.; Trump, Lara J.; von der Leyen, Ursula; Vrchota, Paul; Waller, Denise S.; Weinberger, Meg; Yoder, Scott; Zelenskyy, Volodymyr.

Subjects: Attorney General; European Commission President; Finland, President; France, President; Germany, Chancellor; Holy See (Vatican City), mediation role in Russia-Ukraine conflict; Israel, attacks by Hamas of October 7, 2023; Italy, Prime Minister; Law enforcement officers, service and dedication; Medal of Sacrifice; Russia, conflict in Ukraine; Russia, President; U.S. Secret Service; Ukraine, international military aid; Ukraine, President; Ukraine, Russian invasion and airstrikes; Ukraine, U.S. assistance; United Kingdom, Prime Minister.

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