

Remarks on Signing an Executive Order Establishing the White House Task Force on the 2028 Summer Olympics and an Exchange With Reporters

August 5, 2025

The President. Thank you very much, everybody. It's a big day for a lot of reasons, and it's an honor to have you in this very nice venue across the street from the White House.

And thank you all for being here as we take a major step to ensure the United States is fully prepared to welcome the world to Los Angeles for the 2028 Summer Olympic Games. Very exciting day of my life when we got nominated and we ultimately got it.

And I didn't think I'd be here—[*laughter*—for the games in this capacity, but it worked out that way. So I'm very happy about that. Had no idea that was going to happen. When we got it, I said, "It's too bad I won't be President then." But it sort of—we took a very circuitous route, didn't we? [*Laughter*]

In my first term, we were instrumental in helping the city of Los Angeles win the bid to bring the Olympic torch back to American soil. And today, I will sign an Executive order establishing the White House Task Force on the 2028 Summer Olympics, mobilizing the entire Federal Government to ensure the Games are safe, seamless, and historically successful. It's going to be amazing. I think it's going to be amazing.

America is a nation of champions, and in July 2028, we'll show the world what America does best, and that's win. We're winning like we have never won before. You see that all the time. A year ago, we were not a country that was doing well, and now we're the hottest country anywhere in the world.

I want to recognize several members of the task force, including our great Vice President, J.D. Vance. J.D., thank you very much.

Vice President James D. "J.D." Vance. Yes, sir.

The President. Thank you. Our equally great Attorney General, Pam Bondi. Pam. Thank you very much, Pam.

Secretary of Homeland Security Cristie Kerr—. Do you know who Cristie Kerr is? [*Laughter*] She's a friend of mine. Great golfer. Kristi Noem. She's a better golfer than you. That's the only thing, but you're better at a lot of other things. But I want to thank you for being here and for doing an unbelievable job. Really an unbelievable job.

FCC Chairman Brendan Carr. Brendan, thank you. Thank you, Brendan. Doing a great job.

White House Chief of Staff Susie Wiles, the most powerful woman anywhere in the world. [*Laughter*] She's rated the most powerful woman in the world, and I agree with that.

And Deputy Chiefs of Staff Stephen Miller. Stephen. Stephen, thank you. What happened to Stephen? We never want to miss Stephen. He's an MVP candidate. Dan Scavino, another MVP—James Blair; Taylor Budowich; and Nick Luna. Thank you all. Great group of people. They're going to be very much involved.

I also am grateful to be joined by two of Team U.S.A.'s strongest and fastest competitors, retired gold medalist and gymnast and member of the LA28 Athletes' Council, Nastasha [Nastia; White House correction] Liukin. Nastasha [Nastia; White House correction]. How are you, Nastasha [Nastia; White House correction]? Good? I don't know you, but I've watched you.

You're very talented. I would not want to do what you do. This is much easier, believe me. It's incredible what you've done.

Along with retired gold medal Paralympian swimmer and board member of the U.S. Olympic Committee, Brad Snyder. Brad. Thank you very much, Brad. It's a great honor. Thank you.

Chairman of the 2028 Olympic Games, Casey Wasserman, a friend of mine for a long time. Casey. Thank you very much, Casey. Great job. Thank you very much. It's going to be amazing. L.A. is a little bit different place than it was when selected, but we're going to bring it back stronger than ever.

I spoke to Casey about that. He said, "No, we're going to make it better than ever." It's going to be something that's going to make it even more important as a Olympic Games. It's—was an interesting conversation we had as the fires were raging. *[Laughter]*

The President. Is that right? And I appreciated that very much.

And CEO Reynold Hoover. Reynold, thank you very much. Thank you very much. Great honor. I also want to welcome the chair of the U.S. Olympic Committee, Gene Sykes. Gene, thank you. Thank you, Gene, very much.

And thank him for recently banning men from competing in women's sports. That's a big deal. Thank you very much. It's amazing the way I don't hear any applause for that when everyone feels it.

It's a 97—don't worry about it, Gene—that's a 97/3. It's not 80/20. It's 97/3. But nobody wants to clap. It's crazy. The United States will not let men steal trophies from women at the 2028 Olympics. So we appreciate the fairness and everything else that you've shown.

Also with us today is LA28 board member Reince Priebus and also Kevin McCarthy. I want to thank Kevin McCarthy and Reince.

Los Angeles 2028 Board Member Reinhold R. Priebus. I'm way back here.

The President. Thank you, Reince. And thank you, Kevin. And the L.A. Olympics is shaping up to be a wonderful moment for America—it's going to be incredible. It's so exciting.

And with today's action, I'm directing the Department of State, the Department of Justice, the Department of Homeland Security, the FBI, the Secret Service, the Department of Transportation, and many other departments and agencies to use every tool at their disposal to ensure a fantastic, safe, and beautiful event.

In 2028, the Olympics is bringing back our national pastime, baseball—wow, that's great—with teams playing under the lights at the legendary Dodger Stadium. And it is legendary. It's beautiful—one of the most beautiful.

Squash players will go head to head inside the world-famous Universal Studios. Triathletes will sprint beneath the sun shining down on Venice Beach. This will be one of the great venues. I mean, when you think of it, right?

Los Angeles 2028 Board Chairman Casey Wasserman. Spectacular.

The President. It's going to be so incredible. Soccer teams will face off at the legendary Rose Bowl. Sailors will race through the waters near the Port of Los Angeles.

And the opening ceremony will take place at the beautiful Memorial Coliseum, just like the Olympics of 1932 and 1984. That was something. Those were very important Olympics. 1932 was a very important Olympics, wasn't it, huh?

Mr. Wasserman. Yes.

The President. For eight straight consecutive Summer Games, no one has won more medals than Team U.S.A., which is incredible. We want to keep it that way.

Over the years, Team U.S.A. has won triple the number of Summer Olympic gold medals as the next closest country, and I'm confident that that's going to continue in 2028. That's an amazing achievement, by the way.

Between the L.A. Olympics and the FIFA World Cup—next year, we have the World Cup, and we have the Olympics; got them both—it's a great time to be a sports fan in America. And maybe—you know, I don't want to say most importantly, but it is a celebration of 250 years. We have our 250th anniversary also during the year. And it's going to be—between the three of them, I think there'll be no other time that we've ever had in our history like that.

So I'd like to ask the L.A. Olympics chairman, Casey Wasserman, to say a few words. And I appreciate it very much, Casey. Great job you've done. Thank you very much.

Mr. Wasserman. Thank you, Mr. President. Your support [support; White House correction] and the entire administration's support through this whole process has been truly extraordinary.

In just 1,074 days—yes, we're counting, sir—the eyes of the world will be on this country as we open the 2028 Olympics. And it feels just like yesterday, and you were just President-elect in December of 2016 that you leaned into this process back then, and you've been supportive and helpful every step of the way, and we wouldn't be here without you.

So we greatly appreciate all your support.

The President. Thank you. Thank you very much.

Mr. Wasserman. Our Games plan is near final. We've announced a competition schedule. Some of the greatest brands in America have stepped up to support these Olympic Games as commercial partners. And now, with the creation of this task force, we've unlocked the opportunity to level up our planning and deliver the largest and, yes, greatest Games for our Nation ever.

We expect more than 150 heads of state will come to the Games. We'll host approximately 11,000 Olympic and 4,500 Paralympic athletes. They'll participate in 800 competitions at 49 competition venues. This will be the equivalent of producing seven Super Bowls a day, sir, for 30 days.

The President. Yes.

Mr. Wasserman. But we are now focused more than ever on delivery, and we can't do this alone. I want to thank President Trump and the entire administration for their support and their partnership as we work to bring these Games home.

These will be truly America's Games. We expect millions of fans from around the country to participate and attend events. And for the first time in history, we are going to take the Olympic torch relay to all 50 States. The most States it's ever gone to is 38, but in 2028, we will touch all 50 States. And, sir, if you'd like to run on Park Avenue again to——

The President. I could. [Laughter]

Mr. Wasserman. ——to revisit history, you're more than welcome.

The President. I could.

Mr. Wasserman. And we're thrilled.

But this administration has delivered critical security funding in the recent bill that will be used by local and State agencies and the Federal Government to make sure that our Games are safe and secure and ultimately the best place to experience and be an Olympic fan. We remain incredibly confident in our ability to deliver the greatest Games ever, and that starts with the support of this administration every step of the way.

Thank you, sir.

The President. Thank you. Thank you very much.

Mr. Wasserman. So we don't have trophies in the Olympic movement. But as you know, 1984 hosted the Olympics in Los Angeles.

The President. Right.

Mr. Wasserman. And someone we admire—President Reagan—both of us—presided over those, and you will preside over our Games. So we have for you a full set——

The President. Wow.

Mr. Wasserman. ——of the '84 original medals.

The President. Wow. Can I say that I won them athletically?

Mr. Wasserman. Yes, sir. *[Laughter]*

The President. That would be a great honor.

Mr. Wasserman. Yes. *[Laughter]*

The President. That's beautiful.

Mr. Wasserman. Thank you, sir.

The President. Thank you very much. I appreciate it.

Mr. Wasserman. Thank you very much. Thank you.

The President. Thank you. Thank you very much. Appreciate it.

We're going to sign it.

Mr. Wasserman. Yes.

The President. Okay. Come on around, everybody. This is a big one here.

Mr. Wasserman. Yes.

The President. Okay.

[At this point, the President signed the Executive order.]

Pam, no autopen. *[Laughter]* That was not an autopen.

Thank you very much.

Mr. Wasserman. Thank you very much.

The President. Fantastic. Thank you very much, everybody.

[Several reporters began asking questions at once.]

Go ahead, please. Go ahead. Go ahead.

Q. Mr. President, will the Department of Justice press charges——

[Several reporters spoke at once.]

Q. Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you.

Q. —against any men—

Q. Excuse me.

Q. —that are posing as women—

Q. Excuse—

White House aide. She has the microphone. There's a microphone.

Q. Excuse me.

Q. Okay. Sorry.

Q. No. He called on me, but thank you.

The President. Go ahead, please.

Russia/Oil and Gas Production

Q. Thank you, Mr. President. Do you still plan to follow through on your threat to impose 100-percent tariffs on all countries that purchase Russian energy, including China?

The President. Well, I never set a percentage, but we'll be doing quite a bit of that. We'll see what happens over the next—

Q. You did set a percentage.

The President. —fairly short period of time.

Q. You did set 100 percent.

The President. But we'll see what happens. Yes.

[Several reporters spoke at once.]

You know, they have a meeting tomorrow. We have a meeting with Russia tomorrow. We're going to see what happens. We'll make that determination at that time.

[Several reporters spoke at once.]

Yes. Please, go ahead.

Q. Sir, on—on Gaza, sir.

Q. Thank you, Mr. President.

Q. Is—

Q. I think he called on me.

Ukraine/Russia/The President's Diplomatic Efforts

Thank you, Mr. President. On Ukraine. President Zelenskyy just signed a law allowing for citizens aged 60 and above to serve in the military. We've seen dozens of videos of young men being hauled into vans and dragged to the front lines against their will, and we've even seen videos of a young man with Down syndrome serving on the front line. You—when you campaigned, you said you wanted to see the people stop dying. A lot of people admired that statement. Now the people dying are elderly, mentally handicapped, and conscripts.

So even if a cease-fire doesn't work out, why should Americans continue to fund a foreign military that's scraping the bottom of the barrel of its population like this?

The President. Well, you have to understand, very importantly, this is Biden's war. This is not my war. I'm here to get us out of it. It's a mess, and I'm here to get it out—get us out.

I haven't heard that, when you say about 60-year-old men and, you know, et cetera. But this is Biden's war, and we're working very hard to get us out. I stopped five wars in the last 5 months, actually, and I'd like this to be the sixth, frankly. And that doesn't even include Iran with, you know, obliterating their nuclear hall, because they would have had nuclear weapons within 2 months.

But stopped a lot of wars. You just take a look at the ones just over the last 2 or 3 months, it's been amazing. This is the one I'm trying to stop. This is the one we're working hardest on. The other ones, I stopped within a matter of days, almost every one of them, including India and Pakistan. And I could go over the whole list, but you know the list as well as I do. But this is the one we'd like to see.

I haven't—not heard that, but this is Biden's war, and it's a war that he got us into or indirectly got us into. It should have never happened. It would have never happened had I been President.

Yes. Next to you.

[Several reporters spoke at once.]

Gaza, Palestinian Territories/Humanitarian Assistance

Q. Thank you, Mr. President. Would you support Israel reoccupying all of Gaza, as been—has been suggested by some Israeli officials?

The President. Well, I don't know what the suggestion is. I know that we are there now trying to get people fed. As you know, \$60 million was given by the United States fairly recently to supply food and—a lot of food, frankly, for the people of Gaza that are obviously not doing too well with the food. And I know Israel is going to help us with that, in terms of distribution and also money. We also have—the Arab States are going to help us with that in terms of the money and possibly distribution.

So that's what I'm focused on. As far as the rest of it, I really—can't say. That's going to be pretty much up to Israel.

Yes, please.

Q. Mr. President, on——

The President. Go ahead, please.

Olympic Athlete Qualifications

Q. Thank you. On transgender athletes in the Olympics. Back to the safety, especially, of female combat boxers. Will the Department of Justice considering pressing charges against any man that tries to masquerade as a woman coming into this country to beat up American athletes? And secondly, would your administration consider genetic testing so that these people can prove that they're actually women competing?

The President. Well, I think there is going to be a very strong form of testing. As far as charges, I'd have to ask the Attorney General about that. I don't know. But there will be a very, very strong form of testing, and if the test doesn't come out appropriately, they won't be in the Olympics.

Yes, ma'am, please. Go ahead, please. White.

Transgender Athletes

Q. Thank you. Mr. President, do you believe that the U.S. committee would have made this decision on men in women's sports if you weren't President? And do you believe that this decision will stay in place once you are no longer President?

The President. I think they probably would have, because it just seems to be an issue that most people feel should be. I can't really say. I'd have to—you could have asked Chairman Wasserman. But I would say that—yes, it's—there's a possibility it could go either way, if you really want to know the truth.

I feel strongly about it. I have—I ran a campaign at least partially on that. That was one of the many issues that I talked about—open borders, the economy, taxes, all of the things—but that was certainly one of the issues.

So I really can't—I really don't know. Could have gone either way.

Please.

Federal Reserve System Board of Governors

Q. Mr. President, sir, have you decided on a replacement for the Fed Governor?

The President. For Fed Governor? I'll be making that decision before the end of the week, and we'll either decide on one for permanence or the 4-month period, the term. You know, there's a term of about—a number of months.

We have a couple of candidates. Everybody wants it. Okay? It's not a couple. But we've narrowed it to a couple of candidates, and we've also—we're looking at the Fed Chair, and that's down to four people right now.

Q. Who are the four people?

The President. Very good.

Well, I can tell you, because I've already said there's two Kevins and two other people. Okay?

[Several reporters spoke at once.]

Brian [Brian Glenn, Real America's Voice]. Brian, please.

California Wildfires/Water Management

Q. Thank you, Mr. President. This has to do with the safety aspect of the Olympics.

The President. Yes.

Q. What can you do as a President to ensure that Southern California, the greater Los Angeles area is safe from any fire danger, that the State clears away brush and State parks, very—the reason why this last fire happened in Pacific Palisades? What can you ensure for that?

The President. Well, as you know, Brian, we have—I've been fighting with them for a long time about allowing the water to come down from the Pacific Northwest, essentially. And we actually opened up that water pretty strongly. We got a lot of opposition from the Governor, and we opened it up anyway. And the water is coming down. They—we want it opened further.

They have a lot of water. They send it out into the Pacific Ocean in order to protect the smelt. It's a little, tiny fish that's not doing very well. Especially when they don't have water, they

really do badly. Okay? But it's a fish—environmentally protected, even though it's in many other areas. I think they just use that as an excuse—the smelt. You'll check that out. But I think it's just an excuse.

They've got to allow full water, and they're working with—Lee Zeldin is really helping us a lot, but they've got to allow a full complement of water to come down from the Pacific Northwest.

There is so much water. If Gavin Newsom let the water come down—see the way I pronounced his name properly, for a change. If this guy allowed the water to come down from the Pacific Northwest—they have so much water, they don't know what to do with it. All of those sprinklers would have gone on. All of those people with those beautiful houses with sprinklers in the ceilings, and with the water, the fire pumps outside, all that water—they didn't have any water because they wouldn't let the water come down. There's so much water there.

I—at first, when I got involved with this issue in my first term, I said to the Congressmen—they took me up because they wanted to show me the fields where they could farm 10 times more product. You'd see a—you'd see a hundred acres, and you'd see 1 acre or 2 acres, beautiful green. It's very vibrant so—but they don't give it the water that it's entitled to.

And I said, "Oh, they have a drought?" I said—no, they told me they—"We don't have a drought." They don't—the Democrats don't allow the water to come down into the farms and into anywhere. By the time it gets down, even into certain parts of California, it's fed out into—stupidly, into the Pacific Ocean.

If that water were allowed—so we broke into it, and we allowed it to come down, and it come—down in a higher level. And we want that, and we're demanding that of the Governor.

The other thing is, we'll do anything necessary to keep the Olympics safe, including using our National Guard or military. Okay?

[Several reporters spoke at once.]

No, I'll use—I will use the National Guard or military. This is going to be so safe and—if we have to, because, obviously, you have a mayor that is not very competent.

She can't get the permits for the people. You know, the people are still waiting for their permits. Lee Zeldin got them the Federal permit, which is 10 times harder to get. And everybody can build on the Federal basis, and that's the hard one. But the mayor, Bass, she cannot—she refuses to or cannot get them permits. They're waiting. And I was there right after the fires, and I saw all these beautiful people standing by their homes, ready to get in and get to work, and they're waiting for their permits. And they're still waiting for their State permits and city permits. It's a disgrace. It's a disgrace.

[Several reporters spoke at once.]

Red dress. Red dress. Yes, ma'am.

Q. Thank you, Mr. President.

The President. Thank you.

India

Q. India says that the U.S. imports Russian uranium, chemicals, fertilizers while criticizing their energy imports. Your response to that, sir?

The President. I don't know anything about it. I'd have to check, but we'll get back to you on that.

Yes, please.

[Several reporters spoke at once.]

Q. Mr. President—Mr.——

The President. Yes. Go ahead.

Hostages Held in Gaza, Palestinian Territories

Q. Yes. Have you seen the Hamas-released video of Israeli hostage Evyatar David starving and being forced to dig his own grave in a Hamas tunnel?

The President. I have, yes. I have.

Q. And what is your reaction?

The President. I think it's horrible. I think it's horrible. And I hope a lot of people do get to see it, as bad as it is, because I think it's a horrible thing.

Yes, behind you, please.

[Several reporters spoke at once.]

Q. Mr. President, thank you.

The President. Yes.

U.S. Workforce/Immigration Enforcement Actions

Q. Can you speak to just how, you know, this drop off in foreign-born workers is going to benefit Americans? And will it force American companies to pay fairer wages to American workers?

The President. Well, we want to take care of our American workers, and first and foremost, and that's what we're doing. We also want to help our farmers, because our farmers are producing like never before. We have to help them. And we're working out some very complicated strategies and language. But the main thing that I think I was elected to do is to get the illegals out of our country, who are especially, in particular, criminals.

Eleven thousand, eight hundred and eighty-eight murderers were allowed into our country with Biden's open-border policy, with our border czar, who never spoke to the Border Patrol, never went to the border one time. That's Kamala.

And think of it: We have murderers. We have people coming in from all countries all over the world, from prisons—from prisons in the Congo, in Africa; from prisons all over South America, all over rough parts of Europe, all over Asia. They're pouring into our country—not anymore.

So we just announced we had our third consecutive month where we were rated zero people. And these are, frankly, very liberal people that make up these charts. So I don't know what's wrong with them. They seem to not be doing their job for the Democrats, but I'm honored by the fact that they say it. We're very tough on the border, and people can come into our country, but they have to come in legally.

So I think that we've done an amazing job, actually, but we want—we have to get the criminals out of our country—murderers, drug dealers, gang members. They emptied prisons into our country.

It's one of the reasons—I think, even beyond the economy, it's one of the reasons I got elected. It's really maybe the number one. It was between the economy and that. But you know, as

I said before, our Nation is doing really well, but we have to get these really bad people—they should have never been allowed in our country. Open-border policy is for fools. We're the only country in the world with an open-borders policy, but we don't have that anymore. We had zero now for 3 months in a row.

Peter [Peter Doocy, Fox News].

Q. Thank you very much, President Trump. Nice to see you got off the roof alright.

The President. Yes. Yes.

2028 Presidential Election

Q. You said this morning that you probably won't be running for a third term. This weekend, Secretary of State Rubio said that he thought J.D. Vance would be a great nominee. You could clear the entire Republican field right now. Do you agree that the heir apparent to MAGA is J.D. Vance?

The President. Well, I think most likely, in all fairness. He's the Vice President. I think Marco is also somebody that maybe would get together with J.D. in some form.

I also think we have incredible people, some of the people on the stage right here. So it's too early, obviously, to talk about it. But certainly, he's doing a great job, and he would be probably favored at this point.

Texas Congressional Redistricting Efforts/Democratic Party

Q. And on Texas. If Texas redrawing their congressional map——

The President. Right.

Q. ——would get you five safe red seats means that California, New York, Illinois, and Maryland are all going to redraw their maps to add——blue seats——

The President. Well, they'll do it anyway.

Q. ——is it worth it?

The President. Yes, they'll do it anyway. Why? If we stop over there—they would have done it anyway. Look, a lot of these States—you know, I watched this morning, as Democrats are complaining, and they're complaining from States where they've done it, like in Illinois, like in Massachusetts.

I watched this lunatic, Pocahontas. She's a total lunatic. I don't know what she's on. She's all jumping up and down like—I've never seen anything like it, talking about supporting the communist mayor. And he's not a Socialist. He's a Communist. Okay? This is not a socialist mayor. This is a Communist. If you look at any of his policies—and go back 6 months. You don't even have to go back further than that. So they want to put a Communist in New York.

Now, the good news is, we have a lot of power over that because we're the ones with the money. We send the money; we don't send the money. It's up to the White House. A lot of power in the White House.

But when I watched her jumping up and down, talking about that and supporting the Communist—but if you look at what's going on with the redistricting or whatever you want to call it, the Democrats have done it long before we started. They've done it all over the place. They did it in New York. They did it in a lot of different States.

But in Massachusetts—so somebody used this as an example today. I was interviewed this morning, and they said, "You know, it's pretty unfair. Trump got 40 percent"—I'm not proud of

that, but I think I probably got more, but that's okay. I got 40 percent in Massachusetts, and yet they have 100 percent of the vote in terms of Congress. So there's no Republican. There's no anything.

So I—we should have 40 percent. You know why? They redistricted. And they've done it all over the place, and they've done it in California, by the way. Before this, they've done it in California.

So we'll see what happens. We have a wonderful Governor in Texas. He feels strongly about it. It's going to be up to him. I think there's tremendous support for it.

And you know, we've watched the Democrats destroy our country. In 4 years, they've destroyed—between their open borders that we talked about, transgender for everybody, all of the horrible things that they've done—high taxes, horrible—medical provision for people.

We've watched them destroy our country for 4 years, and people don't want that. And people in Texas—as you saw, I got the highest vote in the history of Texas. I love Texas. Texas likes me, obviously. But I got the highest vote, and that was checked out on the show. Did you see that, where they checked it out? They said, "He actually did get the highest vote in the history of Texas," which disappointed them. They were very disappointed to hear that.

But Texas is a place that's done very well with a free enterprise kind of an attitude, with the exact opposite of what's happening in New York with a communist mayor. And they know what they're doing, and they're doing the right thing.

Yes.

[Several reporters spoke at once.]

Q. Thank you, Mr. President.

Q. Two questions for you.

Q. Thank you, Mr. President.

Q. Thank you.

Texas Congressional Redistricting Efforts

Q. Mr. President, thank you. Texas Senator John Cornyn—Texas Senator John Cornyn is asking for your help to force Democrats back to the State and hold them accountable. Do you want the Federal Government and the FBI to help locate and arrest these Texas Democrats who have left the State?

The President. Well, I think they've abandoned the State. Nobody's seen anything like it, even though they've done it twice before. And in a certain way, it almost looks like they've abandoned the State. It looks very bad.

Yes. Go ahead, please.

Q. But should the FBI get involved?

Q. Thank you so much.

Q. Should the FBI get involved?

The President. Well, they may have to. They may have to. No, I know they want them back. Not only the attorney general, the—Governor wants them back, if you look. I mean, the—the Governor of Texas is demanding they come back. So a lot of people are demanding they come back.

You can't just sit it out. You have to go back. You have to fight it out. That's what elections are all about.

Yes, please.

Convicted Sex Trafficker Ghislaine Maxwell

Q. Thank you so much, President Trump. Two questions for you. One, did you—were you aware of and did you personally approve the prison transfer for Ghislaine Maxwell that your Justice Department—[inaudible]?

The President. I didn't know about it at all, no. I read about it just like you did.

Q. And do you believe that she is a credible voice?

The President. It's not a very uncommon thing, I'd tell you.

Q. Do you believe that she's credible to be listening to? Your Deputy Attorney General sat down with her recently.

The President. Well, he's—let me tell you, he's a very talented man.

Q. But what about her?

The President. His name is Todd Blanche. He's a very legitimate person, very high—I just—a very highly thought of person, respected by everybody. And I didn't talk to him about it, but I will tell you that whatever he asked would be totally appropriate, and it's not an uncommon thing to do that.

Q. But what about her? Do you believe she's credible?

The President. And I think he probably wants to make sure that, you know, people that should not be involved or aren't involved are not hurt by something. That would be very, very unfortunate, very unfair to a lot of people.

But I will say this. Todd Blanche is one of the most highly respected people you'll ever meet. So I know this: I didn't discuss it with him, but anything he talked about with her or the fact that he did that, not unusual, number one, and most importantly, is something that would be totally above board.

[Several reporters spoke at once.]

Please.

[Several reporters spoke at once.]

Yes, please. Go ahead.

Q. But what would justify pardoning her?

U.S. DOGE Service/Government Spending Reductions/Tariff Revenue

Q. Thanks, Mr. President. Mr. President, how much more would you like DOGE to cut from the Federal Government?

The President. Well, it's not so much DOGE anymore. And by the way, I have to say that somebody from DOGE was very badly hurt last night. You saw that. A young man who was beat up by a bunch of thugs in DC. And either they're going to straighten their act out, in the terms of Government and in terms of protection, or we're going to have to federalize and run it the way it's supposed to be run.

But it's not a question of DOGE. We have great people, Secretaries and all, working with DOGE and cutting with a—I said, with a scalpel, as opposed with an ax. They're cutting with a fine-tooth comb, and they're getting rid of people that aren't doing their job or bad people or bad things, bad policy, et cetera, et cetera. And I think we've been very successful in that.

And there's more cutting to do, but there's also more getting—we want smart people in Government. Our country is doing great. I think we are doing probably—maybe, in many ways, better than we've ever done before.

You know, we're taking in trillions—not billions—trillions and trillions of dollars from other countries who, for years, took advantage of us. They took advantage of the United States like we were children, and that's not happening anymore. Now they're paying a lot of money, and they're paying hundreds of billions of dollars—individual countries, paying hundreds of billions of dollars. You're seeing what everybody else is seeing.

And we have a lot of things we can do. You know, one of the questions asked of me this morning is, "Are you going to make a dividend to the people?" And the purpose of what I'm doing is primarily to pay down debt, which will happen in very large quantity. But I think there's also a possibility that we're taking in so much money that we may very well make a dividend to the people of America.

Thank you all very much. Thank you.

[Several reporters spoke at once.]

Thank you very much. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:38 p.m. in the South Court Auditorium of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building. In his remarks, he referred to Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi L. Noem; National Economic Council Director Kevin A. Hassett; former member of the Federal Reserve System Board of Governors Kevin Warsh; White House Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy Stephen Miller; Deputy Chief of Staff Daniel J. Scavino, Jr.; White House Deputy Chief of Staff for Legislative, Political, and Public Affairs M. James Blair; Deputy Chief of Staff for Communications and Personnel Taylor A. Budowich; Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Implementation Nicholas F. Luna; former Vice President Kamal D. Harris; Sen. Elizabeth A. Warren; New York State Rep. Zohran K. Mamdani, in his capacity as a New York City mayoral candidate; Gov. Gregory W. Abbott and State Attorney General W. Kenneth Paxton, Jr., of Texas; and Social Security Administration employee Edward Coristine, in his former capacity as an employee of the U.S. DOGE Service. The transcript was released by the Office of Communications on August 6.

Categories: Addresses and Remarks : White House Task Force on the 2028 Summer Olympics, signing the Executive order establishing; Interviews With the News Media : Exchanges with reporters, White House.

Locations: Washington, DC.

Names: Abbott, Gregory W.; Bass, Kaaren R.; Biden, Joseph R., Jr.; Blair, M. James; Blanche, Todd; Bondi, Pamela J.; Budowich, Taylor A.; Carr, Brendan; Coristine, Edward; Harris, Kamala D.; Hassett, Kevin A.; Hoover, Reynold; Kerr, Cristie; Liukin, Nastia; Luna, Nicholas F.; Mamdani, Zohran K.; Maxwell, Ghislaine; McCarthy, Kevin O.; Miller, Stephen; Newsom, Gavin C.; Noem, Kristi L.; Paxton, W. Kenneth, Jr.; Priebus, Reinhold R.; Scavino, Daniel J., Jr.; Snyder, Brad; Sykes, Gene; Vance, James D. "J.D."; Warren, Elizabeth A.; Warsh, Kevin; Wasserman, Casey; Wiles, Susan; Zeldin, Lee M.

Subjects: 2024 Presidential election; Attorney General; Border security; California, 2028 Olympic Games in Los Angeles; California, Governor; California, wildfires in Los Angeles area; Deputy Attorney General; Environmental Protection Agency; Federal Communications Commission; Federal deficit and debt; Federal Government, spending reductions; Federal Reserve System; Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup; Gaza, hostages held by Hamas; Gaza, humanitarian situation; Government accountability and transparency, strengthening efforts; Illegal immigration; India, trade with U.S.; National Economic Council; National Guard; Olympic and Paralympic Games; Russia, conflict in Ukraine; Russia, oil supply and refining; Secretary of Homeland Security; Sports, efforts to restrict transgender participation; Tariffs; Texas, Governor; Texas, redistricting for congressional seats; Transgender athletes, efforts to restrict participation; U.S. diplomatic efforts, expansion; U.S. DOGE Service; Ukraine, Russian invasion and airstrikes; Undocumented immigrants, deportation of criminals; Vice President; Water management policy, improvement efforts; White House Chief of Staff; White House Deputy Chief of Staff; White House Deputy Chief of Staff for Communications and Personnel; White House Deputy Chief of Staff for Legislative, Political, and Public Affairs; White House Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy; White House Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Implementation; White House Task Force on the 2028 Summer Olympics.

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