

Administration of Donald J. Trump, 2026

Remarks and an Exchange With Reporters in Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Prior to Departure for Palm Beach, Florida

February 13, 2026

The President. So we had a great visit at Fort Bragg. We saw a lot of heroes.

And, as you probably heard, we're going to be giving one particular person the congressional Medal of Honor for what just took place in Venezuela.

And met a lot of people right now. We were there for quite a while, and it was beautiful. These are great warriors. These are great patriots. And they're in very good shape, I will tell you that.

Iran/Potential U.S. Military Involvement

Q. What can Iran do to avoid attack?

The President. Give us the deal that they should have given us the first time. If they give us the right deal, we won't do that. But you know, historically, they haven't done that.

If they—I will say, they want to talk, but so far, they do a lot of talking and no action.

Q. Is there a deadline?

Iran/Timeline for Diplomatic Engagement

Q. When are those talks, Mr. President? When are those talks?

The President. They've already started.

Iran

Q. Do you want regime change in Iran?

The President. Well, it seems like that would be the best thing that could happen. For 47 years, they've been talking and talking and talking, and in the meantime, we've lost a lot of lives while they talk—and legs blown off, arms blown off, faces blown off. This has been going on for a long time. So let's see what happens.

In the meantime, we have——

Q. Who would you want to take over?

The President. Meantime, we have—tremendous power has arrived, and additional power, as you know—another carrier—is going out shortly. So we'll see it how—if we could get it settled for once and for all, that would be good.

Q. Who would you want to take over?

The President. What?

Q. Who would you want to take over?

The President. I don't to talk about that.

Secretary of Transportation Sean P. Duffy

Q. Mr. President, have you spoken to——

The President. There are people.

Q. —Secretary Duffy since Wednesday's incident?

The President. No, no. He's doing a great job.

Iran/Potential U.S. Military Involvement

Q. You said inside that the Iranian nuclear sites have been totally obliterated. What's left to go after?

The President. Well, you can get whatever the dust is down there. That's really the least of the mission. If we do it, that would be the least of the mission. But we'd, you know, probably grab whatever is left. It has been obliterated, as you know.

Iran/Nuclear Weapons Development

Q. Would you accept anything less than zero nuclear enrichment?

The President. I don't—we don't want any enrichment.

Q. Mr. President—

The President. We don't want enrichment.

Thank you very much, everybody.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:10 p.m. on the tarmac at Pope Army Airfield prior to boarding Air Force One. In his remarks, he referred to Chief Warrant Officer 5 Eric Slover, USA.

Categories: Interviews With the News Media : Exchanges with reporters, Fort Bragg, NC.

Locations: Fort Bragg, NC.

Names: Duffy, Sean P.; Slover, Eric.

Subjects: Iran, diplomatic engagement with U.S.; Iran, nuclear weapons development; Medal of Honor; News media, Presidential interviews; North Carolina, President's visit; Secretary of Transportation; U.S. servicemembers, service and dedication; Venezuela, U.S. military capture and exfiltration of President Maduro.

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