

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:32 a.m. In his remarks, he referred to Fred S. Zeidman, Chairman, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council; Sara J. Bloomfield, director, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum; Nobel Prize winner and author Elie Wiesel; President

Mahmud Ahmadi-nejad of Iran; President Umar Hassan Ahmad al-Bashir and First Vice President Salva Kiir Mayardit of Sudan; United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Darfur Jan Eliasson; and African Union Special Envoy for the Darfur Talks and Chief Mediator Salim Ahmed Salim.

Remarks Prior to a Meeting With Congressional Leaders *April 18, 2007*

All of us around the table care deeply about what happened at Virginia Tech. And I know I can speak for all of us here that we send our prayers to the families of the victims, and we send our prayers to the friends of the victims. And we also send our deep concerns to the Virginia Tech community.

This fine educational institution is going through a lot of trauma and pain, and all of us here care deeply about their lives, and they just need to know it. They need to know people grieve for them.

I also want to thank the leaders from Congress for coming down. I'm looking forward to what will be a—one, I suspect,

of many conversations on this war in Iraq and other major foreign policy issues.

We're going to have a very good discussion. People have strong opinions around the table, and I'm looking forward to listening to them. I've got my own opinion, which I'm more than willing to share. The whole objective is to figure out how best to get our troops funded, get the money they need to do the job that I've asked them to do.

And so, again, I want to thank you all for coming. I'm looking forward to our discussions.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:30 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House.

Statement on the Supreme Court Decision on Partial-Birth Abortion *April 18, 2007*

I am pleased that the Supreme Court upheld a law that prohibits the abhorrent procedure of partial-birth abortion. Today's decision affirms that the Constitution does not stand in the way of the people's representatives enacting laws reflecting the compassion and humanity of America. The partial-birth abortion ban, which an overwhelming bipartisan majority in Congress passed and I signed into law, represents

a commitment to building a culture of life in America.

The Supreme Court's decision is an affirmation of the progress we have made over the past 6 years in protecting human dignity and upholding the sanctity of life. We will continue to work for the day when every child is welcomed in life and protected in law.