

White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on January 27. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 26, but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. In the address, the Presi-

dent referred to Esmerelda Wergin, waitress, Ninfa's Tortilla and Taqueria. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

Statement on the Death of Deborah Orin-Eilbeck *January 28, 2007*

Laura and I were saddened to learn of the death of Deborah Orin-Eilbeck. Deb had a distinguished, decades-long career as a journalist, covering every Presidential campaign since 1980 and joining the New York Post's Washington bureau in 1988. Deb fought a valiant battle against cancer with the same tenacity, devotion, and deter-

mination that she brought to her work in the White House briefing room through numerous administrations.

Laura and I send our condolences to Deb's husband, Neville Eilbeck, and to her family, friends, and colleagues. She will be missed by all of us at the White House who cared deeply for her.

Remarks Following a Meeting With Members of the Securing America's Future Energy Organization *January 29, 2007*

A group of our fellow citizens from around the country, different backgrounds, have given me a report called "Recommendations to the Nation on Reducing U.S. Oil Dependence." These citizens have spent time thinking about the national security implications for a country which is dependent on oil from hostile regimes or sources of oil that could be affected by terrorist attack. And I really want to thank you for this comprehensive approach to reducing our dependency on oil. Some really smart ideas in here.

The reason I have asked to come and talk to them is, I wanted to assure them that this administration is committed, as well, to diversifying away from our reliance upon oil. And I believe, like they believe, that we've got fantastic opportunities to use new technologies to secure the American

people and, at the same time, be better stewards of the environment.

Their plan and my plan are very—have got commonalities, and we're going to work together to get Congress to enact a comprehensive plan. I believe there's an appetite in the Halls of Congress to become less dependent on oil. I believe there's a knowledge in Congress that when we spend money on cellulosic ethanol that will make us less dependent on oil.

And I'm going to continue to call upon citizens' groups and concerned citizens to work with Members of Congress so we can—I can sign a comprehensive plan that will assure the American people that as we look forward into the 21st century that we'll be more energy dependent and good stewards of the environment.

So thank you for your efforts. I appreciate your work. I'm honored to be at the