

The President. I broke a sweat. [Laughter]

Q. You didn't break a sweat. [Laughter]

The President. Thank you, guys. Appreciate it. Take care.

NOTE: The interview began at 2:05 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. In his remarks, the President referred to Ambassador Daniel Fried, Assistant Secretary of State for Europe and Eurasian Affairs, in his capacity as Special Envoy for the Guantanamo Bay detention facility closure; Gov. Theodore Strickland of Ohio; White House Press Secretary Robert L. Gibbs; Mayor R.T. Rybak of Minneapolis, MN; Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Shaun L.S. Donovan;

Secretary of Homeland Security Janet A. Napolitano; W. Craig Fugate, Administrator-designate, Federal Emergency Management Agency; Gov. Haley R. Barbour of Mississippi; former Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida; and Secretary of the Treasury Timothy F. Geithner. Reporters referred to Secretary of Agriculture Thomas J. Vilsack; President Felipe de Jesus Calderon Hinojosa of Mexico; Gov. J. Richard Perry of Texas; and R. Gil Kerlikowske, Director, White House Office of National Drug Control Policy. The transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on March 12. Audio was not available for verification of the content of this interview.

Message to the Congress on Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Iran

March 11, 2009

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice to the *Federal Register* for publication, stating that the Iran emergency declared on March 15, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond March 15, 2009.

The crisis between the United States and Iran resulting from the actions and policies of the Government of Iran that led to the declaration of a national emergency on March 15, 1995, has not been resolved. The actions and

policies of the Government of Iran are contrary to the interests of the United States in the region and pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to Iran and maintain in force comprehensive sanctions against Iran to respond to this threat.

BARACK OBAMA

The White House,
March 11, 2009.

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on March 12. The notice of March 11 is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Remarks at the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Implementation Conference

March 12, 2009

Hello, everybody. Please have a seat. I've got my Illinois contingent over here. Please, everybody have a seat. Thank you so much.

I just wanted to stop by and say hello. I know that you heard from Joe Biden at the top of this session, and I wanted to let you know