

to see progress. And if we stick with it, if we don't flinch in the face of some difficulties, then I feel absolutely convinced that we are going to get this economy back on track.

So—all right. Thank you very much, guys.

[At this point, many reporters began speaking at the same time.]

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

National Economy

Q. Sir, are you saying the recession is abating?

The President. I'm saying we're seeing progress.

Q. You're saying what?

The President. I've said that we're seeing progress.

Okay, thank you, guys. Have a wonderful holiday.

Q. Thank you, sir.

The President's Weekly Address April 11, 2009

I speak to you today during a time that is holy and filled with meaning for believers around the world. Earlier this week, Jewish people gathered with family and friends to recite the stories of their ancestors' struggle and ultimate liberation. Tomorrow, Christians of all denominations will come together to rejoice and remember the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

These are two very different holidays with their own very different traditions, but it seems fitting that we mark them both during the same week. For in a larger sense, they are both moments of reflection and renewal. They are both occasions to think more deeply about the obligations we have to ourselves and the obligations we have to one another, no matter who we are, where we come from, or what faith we practice.

This idea that we're all bound up, as Martin Luther King once said, "in a single garment of destiny," is a lesson of all the world's great reli-

The First Family's Dog

Q. When is the dog coming?

The President. Oh, man, now, that's top secret. [Laughter] That's top secret.

[Many reporters began speaking at the same time.]

White House Easter Egg Roll

The President. Exactly. No, no, no, this is tightly held. And any of you going to be at the Easter Egg Roll?

Q. Oh, yes.

The President. That's big. [Laughter] That's big. So we look forward to seeing you on Monday. Thanks, guys.

Q. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:53 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House.

gions. And it never has been more important for us to reaffirm that lesson than it is today, at a time when we face tests and trials unlike any we've seen in our time: an economic crisis that recognizes no borders; violent extremism that's claimed the lives of innocent men, women, and children from Manhattan to Mumbai; an unsustainable dependence on foreign oil and other sources of energy that pollute our air and water and threaten our planet; the proliferation of the world's most dangerous weapons; the persistence of deadly disease; and the recurrence of age-old conflicts.

These are challenges that no single nation, no matter how powerful, can confront alone. The United States must lead the way. But our best chance to solve these unprecedented problems comes from acting in concert with other nations. And that's why I met with leaders of the G-20 nations to ensure that the world's largest economies take strong and unified action in the face of the global economic

crisis. Together, we've taken steps to stimulate growth, restore the flow of credit, open up markets, and dramatically reform our financial regulatory system to prevent such crises from occurring again, steps that will lead to job creation at home.

It is only by working together that we will finally defeat 21st-century security threats like Al Qaida. So it was heartening that our NATO allies united in Strasbourg behind our strategy in Afghanistan and Pakistan and contributed important resources to support our efforts there.

It's only by coordinating with countries around the world that we will stop the spread of the world's most dangerous weapons. And that is why I laid out a strategy in Prague for us to work with Russia and other nations to stop the proliferation of nuclear weapons, to secure nuclear materials from terrorists, and ultimately, to free the world from the menace of a nuclear nightmare.

And it's only by building a new foundation of mutual trust that we will tackle some of our most entrenched problems. And that's why, in Turkey, I spoke to Members of Parliament and university students about rising above the barriers of race, region, and religion that too often divide us.

With all that's at stake today, we cannot afford to talk past one another. We can't afford to

allow old differences to prevent us from making progress in areas of common concern. We can't afford to let walls of mistrust stand. Instead, we have to find and build on our mutual interests. For it is only when people come together and seek common ground that some of that mistrust can begin to fade. And that's where progress begins.

Make no mistake: We live in a dangerous world, and we must be strong and vigilant in the face of these threats. But let us not allow whatever differences we have with other nations to stop us from coming together around those solutions that are essential to our survival and success.

As we celebrate Passover, Easter, and this time of renewal, let's find strength in our shared resolve and purpose in our common aspirations. And if we can do that, then not only will we fulfill the sacred meaning of these holy days, but we will fulfill the promise of our country as a leader around the world.

NOTE: The address was recorded at approximately 2:35 p.m. on April 10 in the Map Room at the White House for broadcast on April 11. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 10 but was embargoed for release until 6 a.m. on April 11.

Statement on the Rescue of Richard Phillips off the Coast of Somalia *April 12, 2009*

I am very pleased that Captain Phillips has been rescued and is safely on board the USS *Boxer*. His safety has been our principal concern, and I know this is a welcome relief to his family and his crew.

I am also very proud of the efforts of the U.S. military and many other departments and agencies who worked tirelessly to secure Captain Phillips's safe recovery.

We remain resolved to halt the rise of piracy in this region. To achieve that goal, we must continue to work with our partners to prevent future attacks, be prepared to interdict acts of piracy, and ensure that those who commit acts of piracy are held accountable for their crimes.

I share the country's admiration for the bravery of Captain Phillips and his selfless concern for his crew. His courage is a model for all Americans.