

And if we do that, if we speak to the hopes of the American people instead of their fears, if we inspire them instead of divide them, if we respond to their challenges with the same sense of urgency they feel in their own lives, we're not just going to win elections—elections will take care of themselves—we will once again be the party that turns around the economy and moves

this country forward and secures the American Dream for another generation.

Thanks very much, everybody. God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:26 a.m. at the Capital Hilton hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Timothy M. Kaine, chairman, Democratic National Committee.

## Statement on the Death of Representative John P. Murtha, Jr. *February 8, 2010*

Michelle and I were deeply saddened today to hear about the passing of Congressman John Murtha. Jack was a devoted husband, a loving father, and a steadfast advocate for the people of Pennsylvania for nearly 40 years. His passion for service was born during his decorated career in the United States Marine Corps, and he went on to earn the distinction of being the first Viet-

nam war combat veteran elected to Congress. Jack's tough-as-nails reputation carried over to Congress, where he became a respected voice on issues of national security.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife of nearly 55 years, Joyce, their three children, and the entire Murtha family.

## Joint Statement by the United States of America and the European Union Calling on the Iranian Government to Fulfill Its Human Rights Obligations *February 8, 2010*

The United States and the European Union condemn the continuing human rights violations in Iran since the June 12 election. The large scale detentions and mass trials, the threatened execution of protestors, the intimidation of family members of those detained and the continuing denial to its citizens of the right to peaceful expression are contrary to human rights norms.

Our concerns are based on our commitment to universal respect for human rights. We are particularly concerned by the potential for fur-

ther violence and repression during the coming days, especially around the anniversary of the Islamic Republic's founding on 11 February. We call on the Government of Iran to live up to its international human rights obligations, to end its abuses against its own people, to hold accountable those who have committed the abuses and to release those who are exercising their rights.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

## Remarks on Signing a Memorandum Establishing a Task Force on Childhood Obesity *February 9, 2010*

*The President.* Good morning, everybody. I am so proud of the work that the First Lady, along with the Cabinet Secretaries behind me, have done in trying to tackle one of the most ur-

gent health issues that we face in this country, and that is the increase in childhood obesity.

And because of the outstanding planning that they've done, they are going to be rolling out a