

take place in Brazil, the only nation that's a five-time champion, although the U.S. is getting better, you have to admit. [Laughter] We're getting better. And as I already mentioned, Rio will host the Olympics in 2016. But even though we lost a hard-fought contest, the United States doesn't just want to watch from the stands. Brazil's expected to invest over \$200 billion to prepare for both of these events. And as you look for businesses to design and build new roads and bridges and stadiums, American companies stand ready to help you meet this challenge, on everything from engineering to manufacturing to construction. We want to see these games and this nation succeed.

So these are just some of the steps we can take to strengthen the ties that bind our two nations, ties that offer the promise of greater prosperity and opportunity for Americans and Brazilians alike. And yet for all the deals and agreements that we may sign, the true potential of our partnership will only be realized by forging relationships between our people: between business leaders, entrepreneurs, scientists, engineers, teachers, students, and over the one—over 1 million citizens who travel to the U.S. and Brazil every year.

Like all friends, we may not agree on every issue. We won't always take the exact same path. But as the two largest democracies in the New World begin the second decade of a young century, let's never forget all that we share.

## Remarks on the Situation in Libya From Brasilia March 19, 2011

Good afternoon, everybody. Today I authorized the Armed Forces of the United States to begin a limited military action in Libya in support of an international effort to protect Libyan civilians. That action has now begun.

In this effort, the United States is acting with a broad coalition that is committed to enforcing United Nations Security Council Resolution 1973, which calls for the protection of

In the United States, we believe in what's known as the American Dream, the idea that no matter who you are or where you come from or how you start out, you can overcome the greatest obstacles and fulfill the greatest hopes. I'm a testament to that dream. I believe that that dream exists in this America as well. I can see it in the entrepreneurial spirit of the men and women in this room. I could see it in the celebrations of Caricoas upon learning that the world will come to compete in Rio. And I can see it running through so much of your history.

Brasilia's a young city; it will turn 51 next month. But it began as a dream more than a century ago. In 1883, Dom Bosco, Brasilia's patron saint, had a vision that one day a capital city of a great nation would be built between the 15th and 20th parallels. It would be a model for the future and ensure that opportunity was the birthright of every Brazilian.

And today, this city and this country are indeed a model for the future, showing the world that democracy is still the best partner of human progress. As friends and neighbors who have lived the same story, we are eager to be a part of your future and fulfill our American Dream together.

*Muito obrigado.* Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:04 p.m. at the Tryp Convention Brasil 21 Center. In his remarks, he referred to President Dilma Rousseff and former Presidents Fernando Henrique Cardoso and Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of Brazil.

the Libyan people. That coalition met in Paris today to send a unified message, and it brings together many of our European and Arab partners.

This is not an outcome that the United States or any of our partners sought. Even yesterday, the international community offered Muammar Qadhafi the opportunity to pursue an immediate ceasefire, one that stopped the

violence against civilians and the advances of Qadhafi's forces. But despite the hollow words of his Government, he has ignored that opportunity. His attacks on his own people have continued. His forces have been on the move. And the danger faced by the people of Libya has grown.

I am deeply aware of the risks of any military action, no matter what limits we place on it. I want the American people to know that the use of force is not our first choice, and it's not a choice that I make lightly. But we cannot stand idly by when a tyrant tells his people that there will be no mercy, and his forces step up their assaults on cities like Benghazi and Misurata, where innocent men and women face brutality and death at the hands of their own Government.

So we must be clear: Actions have consequences, and the writ of the international community must be enforced. That is the cause of this coalition.

As a part of this effort, the United States will contribute our unique capabilities at the front end of the mission to protect Libyan civilians and enable the enforcement of a no-fly zone that will be led by our international partners. And as I said yesterday, we will not—I re-

peat—we will not deploy any U.S. troops on the ground.

As Commander in Chief, I have great confidence in the men and women of our military who will carry out this mission. They carry with them the respect of a grateful nation.

I'm also proud that we are acting as part of a coalition that includes close allies and partners who are prepared to meet their responsibility to protect the people of Libya and uphold the mandate of the international community.

I've acted after consulting with my national security team and Republican and Democratic leaders of Congress. And in the coming hours and days, my administration will keep the American people fully informed. But make no mistake: Today, we are part of a broad coalition. We are answering the calls of a threatened people. And we are acting in the interests of the United States and the world.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:07 p.m. at the Tryp Convention Brasil 21 Center. In his remarks, he referred to Col. Muammar Abu Minyar al-Qadhafi, leader of Libya.

## Statement on the Death of Warren M. Christopher

*March 19, 2011*

Michelle and I were saddened to hear that Warren Christopher has passed away. Deeply dedicated to serving his country, Warren's career ranged from the Naval Reserve in World War II to a clerkship at the Supreme Court to the practice of law and politics in California and Washington. And as President Clinton's Secretary of State, he was a resolute pursuer of

peace, leading negotiations with regard to the Middle East and the Balkans, including the Dayton Agreement, which ended the war in Bosnia. Warren Christopher was a skillful diplomat, a steadfast public servant, and a faithful American. We send our thoughts and prayers to his wife Marie and their children.

## Remarks in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

*March 20, 2011*

*The President.* Hello, Rio de Janeiro!

*Audience members.* Hello!

*Audience member.* Many welcomes!

*The President.* Alo, Cidade Maravilhosa! Boa tarde, todo o povo brasileiro.

Since the moment we arrived, the people of this nation have graciously shown my family the warmth and generosity of the Brazilian spirit. *Obrigado.* Thank you. And I want to give a special thanks for you—to all of you for being