

Now, we've got a ways to go. Even though our economy has created more than 2 million private sector jobs over the past 15 months and continues to grow, we're facing some tough headwinds. Lately it's high gas prices, the earthquake in Japan, and unease about the European fiscal situation. That's going to happen from time to time. There are going to be bumps on the road to recovery.

We know that. But we also know what's happened here at this Chrysler plant. We know that hard-working Americans like Jill helped turn this company and this industry around. That's the American story. We're a people who don't give up, who do big things, who shape our own destiny. And I'm absolutely confident

that if we hold on to that spirit, our best days are still ahead of us.

Thanks for tuning in, and have a great weekend.

NOTE: The address was recorded at approximately 2:25 p.m. on June 3 at the Chrysler Toledo Assembly Complex in Toledo, OH, for broadcast on June 4. In the address, the President referred to Jan L. McClain, mother, Robert McClain, Sr., stepfather, Christopher J. Opial, husband, and Carter J. and Jenna E. Opial, children, of Chrysler Toledo Assembly Complex employee Jill L. Opial. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on June 3, but was embargoed for release until 6 a.m. on June 4.

Statement on the Death of Lawrence S. Eagleburger June 4, 2011

With the passing of former Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, our Nation has lost a distinguished diplomat and public servant. Through more than four decades of service, first in the Army and then as a dedicated Foreign Service officer and statesman, Lawrence Eagleburger devoted his life to the security of our Nation and to strengthening our ties with allies and partners. As Deputy Secretary and then Secretary of State under President

George H.W. Bush, he helped our Nation navigate the pivotal days during the fall of the Berlin Wall and the end of the cold war. Our Nation is grateful for Secretary Eagleburger's lifetime of service, and our thoughts and prayers are with his family, especially his three sons.

NOTE: The statement referred to L. Scott, L. Andrew, and L. Jason Eagleburger, sons of former Secretary Eagleburger.

Remarks at a Welcoming Ceremony for Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany June 7, 2011

President Obama. Good morning, everybody.

Audience members. Good morning.

President Obama. Chancellor Merkel, members of the German delegation: On behalf of Michelle and myself, it is our great pleasure to welcome you back to the White House, and on behalf of the American people, it is our great honor to welcome you back to the United States.

Today marks the first official visit and state dinner for a European leader during my Presi-

dency. It's only fitting. The transatlantic alliance is the cornerstone, is the heart, of our efforts to promote peace and prosperity around the world. And Germany, at the heart of Europe, is one of our strongest allies. And Chancellor Merkel is one of my closest global partners.

Our alliance, at its core, is a partnership between our peoples: the generations of German Americans who helped build a strong America; the Americans who, during a long cold war, helped to defend a free Germany; and citizens of both our countries—entrepreneurs, innova-