

And, Legionnaires, it was a reminder, not just to the family and friends of Corporal Frank Buckles, but to the veterans and families of every generation: No matter when you serve, no matter how many years ago that you took off the uniform, no matter how long you live as a proud veteran of this country we love, America will never leave your side. America will never forget. We will always be grateful to you.

God bless you, God bless all our veterans, and God bless the United States of America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:52 a.m. at the Minneapolis Convention Center. In his remarks, he referred to Jimmie L. Foster, national commander, American Legion, and his wife Rehta; and Susannah Flanagan, daughter of Frank W. Buckles.

## Statement on the Observance of Eid al-Fitr *August 30, 2011*

Michelle and I would like to send Eid greetings to Muslim communities in the United States and around the world. Ramadan has been a time for families and communities to share the happiness of coming together in intense devotion, reflection, and service. Millions all over the world have been inspired to honor their faith by reaching out to those less fortunate. This year, many have observed the month while courageously persevering in their

efforts to secure basic necessities and fundamental freedoms. The United States will continue to stand with them and for the dignity and rights of all people, whether a hungry child in the Horn of Africa or a young person demanding freedom in the Middle East and North Africa.

As Ramadan comes to an end, we send our best wishes for a blessed holiday to Muslim communities around the world. *Eid Mubarak.*

## Statement on the Selection of Yoshihiko Noda as Prime Minister of Japan *August 30, 2011*

I offer my personal congratulations to Yoshihiko Noda on his election as Japan's next Prime Minister. The United States will work with him and the Japanese people on initiatives that benefit our two countries, the region, and the world. For the last half century the U.S.-Japan alliance has served as the linchpin of peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region, and together,

we can ensure that the next half-century enjoys the same stability and prosperity. The relationship between the United States and Japan is based on common interests and common values, and I look forward to working with Prime Minister Noda to tackle the broad range of economic and security issues that require our attention.

## Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives Regarding the Minimization of Regulatory Burdens *August 30, 2011*

*Dear Mr. Speaker:*

Thank you for your letter of August 26, 2011. I agree that it is extremely important to minimize regulatory burdens and to avoid unjustified regulatory costs, particularly in this difficult economic period. I have taken a number of steps to achieve those goals.

Executive Order 13563, issued early this year, imposes a series of new requirements designed to reduce regulatory burdens and costs. As you are undoubtedly aware, this Executive Order also called for an ambitious Government-wide review of rules now on the books. The review was recently completed, producing