

Too many people are out there hurting for us to sit around and doing nothing.

And we are not a people who just sit around and wait for things to happen. We're Americans, we make things happen. We fix problems. We meet our challenges. We don't hold back, and we don't quit. And that's the spirit we need right now.

So, Denver, let's go out and meet the moment. Let's do the right thing, and let's go once

again show the world just why it is the United States of America is the greatest nation on Earth.

God bless you. God bless the United States of America. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:25 a.m. at the Auraria Event Center. In his remarks, he referred to Mahala Greer, student, University of Colorado Denver; and his mother-in-law Marian Robinson.

Statement on the Observance of Diwali

October 26, 2011

Today, here in America and around the world, Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, and some Buddhists will celebrate the holiday of Diwali, the festival of lights. Many who observe this holiday do so by lighting the *diya*, or lamp, which symbolizes the victory of light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance. I was proud to be the first President to mark Diwali and light the *diya* at the White House, and last year, Michelle and I were honored to

join in Diwali celebrations during our visit to India.

Diwali is a time for gathering with family and friends and—as we experienced in India—celebrating with good food and dancing. It is also a time for contemplation and prayer that serves as a reminder of our obligations to our fellow human beings, especially the less fortunate. To all who are observing this sacred holiday here and around the world, happy Diwali and *Saal Mubarak*.

Statement on Representative John W. Olver's Decision Not To Seek Reelection

October 26, 2011

In the Statehouse and Congress, John Olver has proudly served the people of Massachusetts for over 40 years. He has fought tirelessly for a cleaner environment, modern infrastructure, more affordable housing, and more ac-

cessible health care. Michelle and I join the people of Massachusetts in thanking Congressman Olver for his service, and we wish John, his wife Rose, and daughter Martha the very best in the future.

Remarks Prior to a Meeting With Prime Minister Petr Necas of the Czech Republic and an Exchange With Reporters

October 27, 2011

President Obama. I want to extend a heartfelt welcome to Prime Minister Necas and his delegation. This gives me a chance to return the hospitality that the Czech people have provided me on the two occasions that I've had an opportunity to visit. I've always been someone who not only wanted to visit, but—wanted to visit the Czech Republic, but also because I come from Chicago. We've got a lot of people

who are originally from the Czech Republic, and they've made enormous contributions to our country as well.

Let me say first at the top, the Prime Minister just came from Brussels, where he was part of the negotiations around the euro zone crisis. I'm glad to see that progress was made in the recent meetings. I think it is a important first step. We've seen that, although it's very