

business, a bustling city street, a citizen shouting her concerns at a President.

The quiet determination, that strength of character and bond of fellowship, that refutation of fear—that is both our sword and our shield. And long after the current messengers of hate have faded from the world’s memory—alongside the brutal despots and deranged madmen and ruthless demagogues who litter history—the flag of the United States will still wave from small-town cemeteries to national monuments to distant outposts abroad. And that flag will still stand for freedom.

Statement on the Attack on a British Servicemember in London, United Kingdom

May 23, 2013

I condemn in the strongest terms the appalling attack against a British servicemember in Woolwich on May 22. The United States stands resolute with the United Kingdom, our ally and friend, against violent extremism and terror. There can be absolutely no justification for such acts, and our thoughts and prayers are with the family of the victim, the police and security services responding to this horrific act and the communities they serve, and the British people. Our special relationship with the

Thank you very much, everybody. God bless you. May God bless the United States of America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:01 p.m. In his remarks, he referred to Ahmed Abdulkadir Warsame, an accused member of the Al Shabaab terrorist organization in U.S. custody who pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges; former President George W. Bush; 2008 Republican Presidential nominee Sen. John S. McCain III; and William G. Young, judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

United Kingdom is especially important during times of trial, and I look forward to my trip to the United Kingdom to participate in the June G–8 summit hosted by Prime Minister Cameron, which will include discussions on the important global security challenges our countries face together.

NOTE: The statement referred to Lee Rigby, a British servicemember who was killed on May 22.

Statement on Senate Confirmation of Srikanth Srinivasan as a Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit

May 23, 2013

I’m pleased the Senate unanimously confirmed Sri Srinivasan to be a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Sri is a trailblazer who personifies the best of America. Born in Chandigarh, India, and raised in Lawrence, Kansas, Sri spent nearly two decades as an extraordinary litigator before serving as Principal Deputy Solicitor General of the United States. Now he will

serve with distinction on the Federal bench. Sri will in fact be the first South Asian American to serve as a circuit court judge in our history. While I applaud the Senate’s action, it’s important to remember that this confirmation is the first one to this important court in 7 years. The three remaining vacancies must be filled, as well as other vacancies across the country.