

Statement on Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda)

November 10, 2013

Michelle and I are deeply saddened by the loss of life and extensive damage done by Super Typhoon Yolanda. But I know the incredible resiliency of the Philippine people, and I am confident that the spirit of *bayanihan* will see you through this tragedy. The United States is already providing significant humanitarian assistance, and we stand ready to further assist the Government's relief and recovery ef-

forts. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the millions of people affected by this devastating storm.

NOTE: The statement referred to Typhoon Haiyan as Typhoon Yolanda, the name assigned to it by the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration.

Remarks at a Veterans Day Ceremony in Arlington, Virginia

November 11, 2013

The President. Thank you. Please be seated. Good morning, everyone.

Audience members. Good morning.

The President. Thank you, Secretary Shinseki, for your lifetime of service to our Nation and for being a tireless advocate on behalf of America's veterans, including your fellow Vietnam veterans. To Vice President Biden and Dr. Jill Biden; Secretaries Hagel and Perez; Admiral Winnefeldt; Major General Buchanan; most of all, to our outstanding veteran service organizations, our men and women in uniform, and to the proud veterans and family members joining us in this sacred place: Michelle and I are incredibly honored to be with you all here today again.

To the Gold Star families and the brothers-and sisters-in-arms who walk the paths of these hallowed grounds and the cemeteries around the world, we join you as you remember your loved ones who wore America's uniform. And here at Arlington and Section 60, we've ensured that you can continue to bring the small mementos of your love and affection to the final resting place of these American heroes.

Today we gather once more to honor patriots who have rendered the highest service any American can offer this Nation: those who fought for our freedom and stood sentry for our security. On this hillside of solemn remembrance and in veterans halls and in proud pa-

rades across America, we join as one people to honor a debt we can never fully repay.

In the life of our Nation, across every generation, there are those who stand apart. They step up, they raise their hands, they take that oath, they put on the uniform, and they put their lives on the line. They do this so that the rest of us might live in a country and a world that is safer, freer, and more just. This is the gift they've given us. This is the debt that we owe them.

They fought on a green at Lexington so that we could make independent the country they imagined. They fought on the fields of Gettysburg so that we could make whole a nation torn asunder. They fought on the beaches of Europe and across Pacific islands. And from their sacrifice we emerged the strongest and most prosperous nation in the history of the world. And this year, as we mark the 60th anniversary of the end of the fighting in Korea, we pay special tribute to all those who served in the Korean war.

From the jungles of Vietnam to Desert Storm, to the mountains of the Balkans, they have answered America's call. And since America was attacked on that clear September morning, millions more have assumed that mantle, defining one of the greatest generations of military service this country has ever produced.