

and years of solitary confinement with extraordinary fortitude. The valor that he and his fellow POWs displayed was deeply inspiring to our Nation at the time, and it continues to inspire our brave men and women who

serve today. As Senator, he served as a strong advocate for our national security. He leaves behind a legacy of heroic service to his country, and Michelle and I send our condolences to the Denton family.

Remarks on Presenting the Department of State's International Women of Courage Award to Maha Al Muneef of Saudi Arabia in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia March 29, 2014

The President. For the press, I just wanted to let everybody know Dr. Al Muneef was a recipient of the International Women of Courage Award that the State Department annually presents to women who are doing extraordinary work around the world advocating on behalf of women, children, and families. She was not able to attend because of family health issues, but we were aware of the fact that we'd be able to see her here today to personally present the award.

I'm doing this on behalf of Michelle Obama, who normally is the presenter, and I know that Dr. Al Muneef is disappointed that it's me instead of Michelle, appropriately so. [Laughter] But Dr. Maha Al Muneef has been able to not only set up services here in the Kingdom, but also, more importantly in some ways, been able to pass laws providing protections for women and children for domestic abuse and to provide a safe space and shelter for those who are suffering from domestic abuse.

And so to see the kind of progress that's been made, her ability to work with the Kingdom to persuade many that this is an issue that

is going to be important to the society over the long term, I think makes this award fully justified. And so we're very, very proud of you and grateful for all the work you're doing here, and I'm looking forward to seeing you do even more wonderful things in the future.

Dr. Al Muneef. Thank you very much, and I'm really honored and thrilled to have this award. Thank you very much, and welcome to Saudi Arabia. And I hope this is—[inaudible]—the first step, and we're moving forward on the women's issues in Saudi Arabia. Thank you very much.

The President. Thank you so much. Thank you. And she has wonderful children who are here. And so the—

Dr. Al Muneef. They're taking pictures.

The President. All—she's very proud of them. Oh, there they are. They're taking pictures.

Dr. Al Muneef. They're taking pictures.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:56 a.m. at the Ritz-Carlton, Riyadh hotel.

Remarks Honoring the 2013 World Series Champion Boston Red Sox April 1, 2014

The President. Hello, everybody!

Audience members. Hello!

The President. Everybody, have a seat. Have a seat. I've got a few things to say here.

First of all, it's great to see you as we kick off the 2014 baseball season. Now, I thought I invited the Red Sox here today, but there must be a mistake, because I don't recognize all these clean-shaven guys. [Laughter] There's

one guy, a couple guys, who decided they thought the beard was working for them.

But beards or no beards, it is an honor to welcome the 2013 World Series Champion Boston Red Sox to the White House. I have to say, you all have some fanatical fans. [Laughter] And many of them occupy my administration and the White House. Look at my White House Photographer. He's been thinking