

that's what camaraderie is all about: honor, courage, commitment. That's what makes the Midshipmen so strong. And that's why I'm so proud to serve as your Commander in Chief, not only—in fact, not primarily—because of what you've done on the football field, but because of your dedication to each other and your service to America.

So today it is my privilege to present you with a trophy that weighs about as much as I do. [Laughter] Congratulations, guys, once again.

[At this point, Head Coach Ken Niumatalolo gave brief remarks, after which the President

was presented with a team jersey and commemorative ring.]

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:02 p.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Cody Peterson and D.J. Sargenti, linebackers, Matt Aiken, wide receiver, and Wave Ryder, safety, U.S. Naval Academy football team; Barry D. Sanders, former running back, National Football League's Detroit Lions; and Will McKamey, a Midshipmen running back who died on March 25 after collapsing at football practice the previous weekend.

Statement on Signing Legislation Concerning Visa Limitations for Certain Representatives to the United Nations April 18, 2014

Today I have signed into law S. 2195, an Act concerning visa limitations for certain representatives to the United Nations. S. 2195 amends section 407 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1990 and 1991, to provide that no individual may be admitted to the United States as a representative to the United Nations, if that individual has been found to have been engaged in espionage or terrorist activity directed against the United States or its allies, and if that individual may pose a threat to United States national security interests. As President Bush observed in signing the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1990 and 1991, this provision "could constrain the exercise of my exclusive constitutional authority to receive within the United States certain foreign ambassadors to the United Nations." (Public Papers of the President, George Bush, Vol. I, 1990, page 240). Acts of espionage and terrorism against the United States and our allies are unques-

tionably problems of the utmost gravity, and I share the Congress's concern that individuals who have engaged in such activity may use the cover of diplomacy to gain access to our Nation. Nevertheless, as President Bush also observed, "curtailing by statute my constitutional discretion to receive or reject ambassadors is neither a permissible nor a practical solution." I shall therefore continue to treat section 407, as originally enacted and as amended by S. 2195, as advisory in circumstances in which it would interfere with the exercise of this discretion.

BARACK OBAMA

The White House,
April 18, 2014.

NOTE: S. 2195, approved April 18, was assigned Public Law No. 113-100.

Statement on the Observance of Easter April 18, 2014

This weekend, Michelle and I join our fellow Christians in marking Good Friday and celebrating Easter. We will reflect on the sacri-

fice that Jesus Christ made for us and rejoice in the triumph of the Resurrection. This season reminds us that God is always with us, in

suffering and in celebration. We give thanks for the many blessings in our lives and renew our commitments to follow Christ's example by

loving God and loving our neighbors as ourselves. We wish all who celebrate a blessed Easter.

The President's Weekly Address

April 19, 2014

Hi, everybody. For millions of Americans, this time of year holds great meaning.

Earlier this week, we hosted a Passover Seder at the White House and joined Jewish families around the world in their retellings of the story of the Exodus and the victory of faith over oppression.

And this Sunday, Michelle, Malia, Sasha, and I will join our fellow Christians around the world in celebrating the resurrection of Christ, the salvation he offered the world, and the hope that comes with the Easter season.

These holy days have their roots in miracles that took place long ago. And yet they still inspire us, guide us, and strengthen us today. They remind us of our responsibilities to God and, as God's children, our responsibilities to one another.

For me and for countless other Christians, Holy Week, and Easter are times for reflection and renewal. We remember the grace of an awesome God, who loves us so deeply that He gave us his only Son so that we might live through Him. We recall all that Jesus endured for us—the scorn of the crowds, the agony of the cross—all so that we might be forgiven our sins and granted everlasting life. And we recommit our-

selves to following His example, to love and serve one another, particularly “the least of these” among us, just as He loves every one of us.

The common thread of humanity that connects us all—not just Christians and Jews, but Muslims and Hindus and Sikhs—is our shared commitment to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. To remember, I am my brother's keeper, and I am my sister's keeper. Whatever your faith, believer or nonbeliever, there's no better time to rededicate ourselves to that universal mission.

For me, Easter is a story of hope, a belief in a better day to come, just around the bend. So to all Christians who are celebrating, from my family to yours, happy Easter. And to every American, have a joyful weekend.

Thanks, God bless you, and may God bless this country we love.

NOTE: The address was recorded at approximately 11:55 a.m. on April 18 in the Roosevelt Room at the White House for broadcast on April 19. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 18, but was embargoed for release until 6 a.m. on April 19.

Remarks at the White House Easter Egg Roll

April 21, 2014

The President. Well, hello, everybody. Is everybody having fun? Happy Easter. This is the biggest event that we have at the White House all year long, and it is our most fun event, because we have a chance to see families from all across the country coming through here. My main and only job, other than officiating over the roll at some point, is to introduce, alongside the Easter Bunny, the person who makes

this all possible—we love her dearly—my wife, the First Lady, Michelle Obama.

The First Lady. Thank you, honey. Hey, everybody. Happy Easter Egg Roll Day. Isn't this exciting? It is so wonderful to have so many of you here today. We are celebrating the 136th Easter egg roll. The theme of this year's roll is “Hop Into Health [Healthy],^o Swing Into Shape.” Yes, I love it.

^o White House correction.