

Mr. Prime Minister, many of our American soldiers here today are also part of the 500—503d Airborne, “The Rock.” They’re strong. They’re tough. They hold their ground. And NATO, including the United States, will defend Estonia, will defend Latvia, will defend Lithuania, will defend all of our NATO allies. Americans are proud to be at your side as you won your independence a century ago. We’ll be by your side, helping you to protect that independence for the centuries to come.

So thank you, Mr. Prime Minister, for being such a strong partner. And thanks to all of you for stepping forward, for putting on a uniform, for serving in this mission, which is so vital to the security of our nations. You make us proud, and we can never thank you enough.

God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at approximately 4:48 p.m. In his remarks, Prime Minister Roivas referred to Maj. Gen. Riho Terras, commander in chief, Estonian Defense Forces.

## Letter to Congressional Leaders on Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Certain Terrorist Attacks *September 4, 2014*

*Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1622(d), provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. Consistent with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* the enclosed notice, stating that the emergency declared in Proclamation 7463 with respect to the terrorist attacks on the United States of September 11, 2001, is to continue in effect for an additional year.

The terrorist threat that led to the declaration on September 14, 2001, of a national emergency continues. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue in effect after September 14, 2014, the national emergency with respect to the terrorist threat.

Sincerely,

BARACK OBAMA

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to John A. Boehner, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Joseph R. Biden, Jr., President of the Senate. The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

## Remarks Prior to a Meeting With President Recep Tayyip Erdogan of Turkey in Newport, Wales *September 5, 2014*

*President Obama.* I very much appreciate the opportunity to once again meet with Prime Minister—former Prime Minister Erdogan, now President Erdogan. And I want to congratulate him on his election victory.

President Erdogan is one of the key leaders of our alliance, and Turkey obviously serves an extraordinarily important role in the alliance in part because it is a bridge between Europe and

the Middle East and the Muslim world. And in that capacity, his views on how we deal with some of the challenges arising in the southern front of NATO are very critical.

So I look forward to a very productive discussion around issues that we’re both equally concerned about, principally the instability in Iraq and Syria and the emergence of ISIL as a threat to all our nations. And I want to express

my appreciation for the cooperation between U.S. and Turkish both military and intelligence services in dealing with the issue of foreign fighters, an area where we still have more work to do.

We'll also have an opportunity to discuss the humanitarian elements of the ongoing conflict in Syria, where Turkey has borne an enormous burden and has been very generous in accommodating so many people who have been displaced from their homes by the violence.

*President Erdogan.* Thank you. Distinguished members of the press, I'm very pleased to have this occasion to meet President Obama on the margins of the NATO leaders summit to discuss some very important developments taking place in our region, especially most recently.

We have between Turkey and the United States a very important process of model partnership. And this model partnership brings us

close to each other on many issues. And on the military front, one of the most important areas of cooperation in this framework is NATO. We also have significant cooperation politically, economically, culturally, and commercially.

And we have had this time at NATO, a very important summit where there was wide discussion about a number of issues and countries, such as Syria, Iraq, Palestine, Egypt, Libya, and Ukraine. And we will now have an opportunity to discuss these issues in some depth with President Obama. And we will make best use of this opportunity to do so.

Thank you.

*President Obama.* Thank you, everybody. I'll see you in a bit.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:08 p.m. at the Celtic Manor Resort. In his remarks, he referred to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) terrorist organization.

## The President's News Conference in Newport September 5, 2014

*President Obama.* Good afternoon. Let me begin by thanking my great friend, Prime Minister Cameron, and his entire team, for hosting this NATO summit and making it such a success. And I want to thank the people of Newport and Cardiff and the people of Wales for welcoming me and my delegation so warmly. It's a great honor to be the first sitting U.S. President to visit Wales.

We've met at a time of transition and a time of testing. After more than a decade, NATO's combat mission in Afghanistan is coming to an end. Russia's aggression against Ukraine threatens our vision of a Europe that is whole, free, and at peace. In the Middle East, the terrorist threat from ISIL poses a growing danger. Here at this summit, our alliance has summoned the will, the resources, and the capabilities to meet all of these challenges.

First and foremost, we have reaffirmed the central mission of the alliance. Article 5 enshrines our solemn duty to each other: "[A]n armed attack against one . . . shall be considered an attack against them all." This is a bind-

ing treaty obligation. It is nonnegotiable. And here in Wales, we've left absolutely no doubt: We will defend every ally.

Second, we agreed to be resolute in reassuring our allies in Eastern Europe. Increased NATO air patrols over the Baltics will continue. Rotations of additional forces throughout Eastern Europe for training and exercises will continue. Naval patrols in the Black Sea will continue. And all 28 NATO nations agreed to contribute to all of these measures for as long as necessary.

Third, to ensure that NATO remains prepared for any contingency, we agreed to a new readiness action plan. The alliance will update its defense planning. We will create a new highly ready Rapid Response Force that can be deployed on very short notice. We'll increase NATO's presence in Central and Eastern Europe with additional equipment, training, exercises, and troop rotations. And the \$1 billion initiative that I announced in Warsaw will be a strong and ongoing U.S. contribution to this plan.