

whose stories I've been humbled to know these past 8 years, Americans who I believe embody the true spirit of 9/11.

It's the courage of Welles Crowther, just 24 years old, in the South Tower, the man in the red bandana who spent his final moments helping strangers to safety before the towers fell. It's the resilience of the firehouse on Eighth Avenue, patriots who lost more than a dozen men, but who still suit up every day as the "Pride of Midtown." It's the love of a daughter, Payton Wall of New Jersey, whose father, in his last moments on the phone from the towers, told her, "I will always be watching over you."

It's the resolve of those Navy SEALs who made sure justice was finally done, who served as we must live as a nation: getting each other's backs, looking out for each other, united, one mission, one team. It's the ultimate sacrifice of men and women who rest for eternity not far from here in gentle green hills, in perfect formation; Americans who gave their lives in far-away places so that we can be here today, strong and free and proud. It's all of us, every American who gets up each day, lives our lives,

carries on, because as Americans, we do not give in to fear. We will preserve our freedoms and the way of life that makes us a beacon to the world.

Let us not—"let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; . . . write them on the tablet of your heart." In how we conduct ourselves as individuals and as a nation, we have the opportunity each and every day to live up to the sacrifice of those heroes that we lost. May God bless the memory of the loved ones here and across the country. They remain in our hearts today. May He watch over these faithful families and all who protect us. And may God forever bless the United States of America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:43 a.m. In his remarks, he referred to Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Joseph F. Dunford, Jr., USMC; and Dana Falkenberg of University Park, MD, who was killed aboard American Airlines Flight 77, which crashed into the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. He also referred to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) terrorist organization.

Remarks Following a Meeting With Congressional Leaders *September 12, 2016*

Well, I want to thank the four leaders for coming down. Even though I know that we're in the midst of political season and everybody is thinking about elections, there is still business to be done.

And I was encouraged by some of the constructive work that's being done right now: number one, to make sure that the Government stays open; number two, to make sure that we're able to adequately fund our efforts to not only deal with the Zika outbreaks, but also to come up with diagnostic tools and vaccines that will solve the problem for good.

We also had an opportunity to discuss the possibilities of disaster relief. As all of you know, I visited Louisiana, where obviously a lot of folks are still suffering the cleanup process

there. And there are also significant other areas of the country that are suffering from everything from wildfires to the situation in Flint, which is still unresolved. So we discussed strategies where we might be able to make a difference there.

We had an opportunity to talk about some initiatives that had been moving forward in a bipartisan basis that have not yet been fully resolved, but where we still have a chance to make a difference, like criminal justice reform. And we—I also gave everybody here a briefing on my travels through Asia and some of the strategic issues that are posed there.

So my hope is, is that we can make some modest progress in areas where we agree and we've been working together. After the elec-

tion, I am even more hopeful that we can get some things done. But I want to thank everybody for coming here, and my hope is that by the time Congress adjourns before the election that we will have an agreement in place to fund the Government and that our Zika funding will be taken care of.

So thank you very much.

Statement on the Observance of Eid al-Adha September 12, 2016

Michelle and I extend our warmest wishes to Muslims across our country and around the world who are celebrating Eid al-Adha. This special holiday is a time to honor the sacrifice, resolve, and commitment to God demonstrated by Abraham. It marks the end of the pilgrimage of Hajj performed each year by millions of Muslims who journey from all corners of the world to Mecca as a testament to their faith. It is also a celebration of the ways faith can transcend any differences or boundaries and unite us under the banners of fellowship and love.

During this time, Muslims from all walks of life join their neighbors and friends at their local mosques, community centers, and homes to pray, give alms, exchange gifts, and recommit to helping others. Food and money are distrib-

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:05 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Senate Majority Leader A. Mitchell McConnell; Senate Minority Leader Harry M. Reid; Speaker of the House of Representatives Paul D. Ryan; and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi.

uted to those in need as men, women, and children reflect on their fortune and look towards the next year.

As we mark Eid al-Adha this year, we are reminded of the millions of refugees around the globe who are spending this sacred holiday separated from their families, unsure of their future, but still hoping for a brighter tomorrow. And as a nation, we remain committed to welcoming the stranger with empathy and an open heart, from the refugee who flees war-torn lands to the immigrant who leaves home in search of a better life.

May the spirits of community togetherness, principled service, and compassionate generosity bring good tidings to those celebrating Eid al-Adha. From our family to yours, *Eid Mubarak*.

Remarks at a Campaign Rally for Democratic Presidential Nominee Hillary Rodham Clinton in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania September 13, 2016

The President. Hello, Philly! Hello, Philadelphia! Oh, it is good to be back in Philly. Can everybody please give Patrick a big round of applause for that great introduction? Oh, it is good to be back on the campaign trail. Now, I understand I am not—I know I’m not the first person from the White House to come to Philly this week. Some of you may have seen Joe Biden at the Eagles game. He told me, “Barack, you’ve got to get on the Wentz wagon.” He said, “We—they—we’ve got a new quarterback; we’ve got hope in Philly.” And I had to explain, “Joe, I am a Bears fan.”

Audience members. Boo!

The President. And we play Philly next Monday night. So I’ve got to stick with my team, but I am going to go to Philly and scout out what all the fuss is about.

I also am here because you’ve got some of the best public servants in America. They work their heart out every day for you. You’ve got Scranton’s favorite son, in addition to Joe Biden: Senator Bob Casey, one of the best Senators in the country. Your outstanding Governor, Tom Wolf, is here. Your wonderful mayor, Jim Kenney, is here. One of your outstanding