

Don't ever think you can't make a difference. As Secretary Clinton said this morning, fighting for what is right is worth it.

Sometimes, you lose an argument. Sometimes, you lose an election. The path that this country has taken has never been a straight line. We zig and zag, and sometimes, we move in ways that some people think is forward and others think is moving back. And that's okay. I've lost elections before. Joe hasn't. [Laughter] But you know—[laughter].

[At this point, Vice President Joe Biden made the sign of the cross.]

The President. So I've been sort of—

Vice President Biden. Remember, you beat me badly. [Laughter]

The President. That's the way politics works sometimes. We try really hard to persuade people that we're right. And then, people vote. And then, if we lose, we learn from our mistakes, we do some reflection, we lick our wounds, we brush ourselves off, we get back in the arena. We go at it. We try even harder the next time.

The point, though, is, is that we all go forward, with a presumption of good faith in our fellow citizens, because that presumption of good faith is essential to a vibrant and functioning democracy. That's how this country has moved forward for 240 years. It's how we've pushed boundaries and promoted freedom around the world. That's how we've expanded the rights of our founding to reach all of our citizens. It's how we have come this far.

And that's why I'm confident that this incredible journey that we're on as Americans will go on. And I am looking forward to doing everything that I can to make sure that the next President is successful in that. I have said before, I think of this job as being a relay runner. You take the baton, you run your best race, and hopefully, by the time you hand it off, you're a little further ahead; you've made a little progress. And I can say that we've done that, and I want to make sure that handoff is well executed, because ultimately, we're all on the same team.

All right? Thank you very much, everybody.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:20 p.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Burundi November 9, 2016

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. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13712 of November 22, 2015, with respect to the situation in Burundi, is to continue in effect beyond November 22, 2016.

The situation in Burundi, which has been marked by the killing of and violence against ci-

vilians, unrest, the incitement of violence, and significant political repression, and which threatens the peace, security, and stability of Burundi, continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13712 with respect to the situation in Burundi.

Sincerely,

BARACK OBAMA

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Paul D. Ryan, 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 Following a Meeting With President-Elect Donald J. Trump November 10, 2016

The President. Well, I just had the opportunity to have an excellent conversation with President-elect Trump. It was wide ranging. We talked about some of the organizational issues in setting up a White House. We talked about foreign policy. We talked about domestic policy. And as I said last night, my number-one priority in the coming 2 months is to try to facilitate a transition that ensures our President-elect is successful.

And I have been very encouraged by the, I think, interest in President-elect Trump's wanting to work with my team around many of the issues that this great country faces. And I believe that it is important for all of us, regardless of party and regardless of political preferences, to now come together, work together, to deal with the many challenges that we face.

And in the meantime, Michelle has had a chance to greet the incoming First Lady. And we had an excellent conversation with her as well, and we want to make sure that they feel welcome as they prepare to make this transition.

And most of all, I want to emphasize to you, Mr. President-elect, that we now are going to want to do everything we can to help you suc-

ceed, because if you succeed, then the country succeeds.

Please go ahead.

President-elect Trump. Well, thank you very much, President Obama. This was a meeting that was going to last for maybe 10 or 15 minutes, and we were just going to get to know each other. We had never met each other. I have great respect. The meeting lasted for almost an hour and a half. And it could have—as far as I'm concerned, it could have gone on for a lot longer.

We really—we discussed a lot of different situations, some wonderful and some difficulties. I very much look forward to dealing with the President in the future, including counsel. He has—he explained some of the difficulties, some of the high-flying assets and some of the really great things that have been achieved.

So, Mr. President, it was a great honor being with you, and I look forward to being with you many, many more times in the future.

The President. Good. All right.

President-elect Trump. Thank you, sir.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:36 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Melania Trump, wife of President-elect Trump.

Remarks Honoring the National Basketball Association Champion Cleveland Cavaliers

November 10, 2016

The President. Hello, everybody! Welcome to the White House, and give it up for the World Champion Cleveland Cavaliers! That's right, I said "World Champion" and "Cleveland" in the same sentence. [Laughter] That's what we're talking about when we talk about hope and change. [Laughter]

We've got a lot of big Cavs fans here in the house, including Ohio's Governor, John Kasich, and his daughters Emma and Reese. We've got some outstanding Members of Congress that are

here. And obviously, we want to recognize Cavs owner Dan Gilbert, who put so much of himself into trying to make sure this thing worked. One of the great general managers of the game, David Griffin. And the pride and joy of Mexico, Missouri—[laughter]—Coach Tyronn Lue.

I also, before I go any further, want to give a special thanks to J.R. Smith's shirt for showing up. [Laughter] I wasn't sure if it was going to make an appearance today. I'm glad you came. You're a very nice shirt. [Laughter]