

*Administration of Barack Obama, 2014*

## **Remarks on the Shootings at Fort Hood, Texas, from Chicago, Illinois**

*April 2, 2014*

Hello, everybody. I just got off the phone with Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Sandy Winnefeld to get the latest report on the situation in Fort Hood. Obviously, we're following it closely. The situation is fluid right now. But my national security team is in close contact with not just the Defense Department, but the FBI. They are working with folks on the ground to determine exactly what happened to make sure that everybody is secure. And I want to just assure all of us that we're going to get to the bottom of exactly what happened.

Any shooting is troubling. Obviously, this reopens the pain of what happened at Fort Hood 5 years ago. We know these families. We know their incredible service to our country and the sacrifices that they make. Obviously, our thoughts and prayers were—are with the entire community. And we are going to do everything we can to make sure that the community at Fort Hood has what it needs to deal with the current situation, but also any potential aftermath.

We're heartbroken that something like this might have happened again. And I don't want to comment on the facts until I know exactly what has happened, but for now, I would just hope that everybody across the country is keeping the families and the community of Fort Hood in our thoughts and in our prayers. The folks there have sacrificed so much on behalf of our freedom. Many of the people there have been on multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. They serve with valor, and they serve with distinction. And when they're at their home base, they need to feel safe. We don't yet know what happened tonight, but obviously, that sense of safety has been broken once again. And we're going to have to find out exactly what happened.

The Pentagon will undoubtedly have further briefings for you as we get more details about what happened. All right?

Thanks, everybody.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:46 p.m. at Chicago Cut Steakhouse.

*Categories:* Addresses and Remarks : Fort Hood, TX, shootings, remarks in Chicago, IL.

*Locations:* Chicago, IL.

*Names:* Winnefeld, James A. \"Sandy,\" Jr.

*Subjects:* Armed Forces, U.S. : Servicemembers :: Service and dedication; Army, Department of the : Shootings at Fort Hood, TX; Defense, Department of : Joint Chiefs of Staff; Illinois: President's visit; Justice, Department of : Bureau of Investigation, Federal; Texas : Shootings at Fort Hood.

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