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Q. No, sir.

The President. I think we need to fund the troops. I submitted a supplemental last February. Anyway——

Q. My question, sir, is, are you feeling troubled about your standing here today, about perhaps facing a credibility gap with the American people?

The President. No, I'm feeling pretty spirited, pretty good about life, and have made the decision to come before you so I can explain the NIE. And I have said Iran is dangerous, and the NIE doesn't do anything to change my opinion about the danger Iran poses to the world. Quite the contrary, I'm using this NIE as an opportunity to continue to rally our colleagues and allies.

Q. Do you think it——

The President. It makes it—the NIE makes it clear that the strategy we have used in the past is effective. And the reason why we need to make sure that strategy goes forward for the future is because if Iran shows up with a nuclear weapon at some point in time, the world is going to say, what happened to them in 2007? How come they couldn't see the impending danger? What caused them not to understand that a country that once had a weapons program could reconstitute the weapons program? How come they couldn't see that the important first step in developing a weapon is the capacity to be able to enrich uranium? How come they didn't know that with that capacity, that knowledge could be passed on to a covert program? What blinded them to the realities of the world? And it's not going to happen on my watch, Mark.

And so, kind of, psychology 101 ain't working. It's just not working. I understand the issues; I clearly see the problems. And I'm going to use the NIE to continue to rally the international community for the sake of peace.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President's news conference began at 10:01 a.m. in the James S. Brady Press Briefing Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to President Mahmud Ahmadi-nejad of Iran; King Abdallah bin Abd al-Aziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia; Prime Minister Stephen Harper of Canada; President Alvaro Uribe Velez of Colombia; and Cable News Network reporter Candy Crowley. Reporters referred to President Hugo Chavez Frias of Venezuela; and President Vladimir Putin of Russia. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this news conference.

Statement on Senate Approval of a Free Trade Agreement With Peru

December 4, 2007

I commend the Senate for approving the free trade agreement with Peru with strong bipartisan support. This agreement will level the playing field for American exporters and investors and will expand an important market in this hemisphere for U.S. goods and services, which will help strengthen economic growth and job creation in the United States. Approval of this agreement also signals our firm support for those who share our values of freedom and democracy and expanding opportunity for all.

Today's action by the Senate also marks the approval of the first free trade agreement that fulfills the May 10 bipartisan trade agreement with Congress by incorporating enforceable labor and environmental standards. I look forward to signing this legislation into law and urge Congress to promptly consider and approve our other pending free trade agreements, starting with Colombia, which would be important to the stability of the region, and including Panama and South Korea.

NOTE: The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this statement.

Proclamation 8209—National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, 2007

December 4, 2007

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

On December 7, 1941, our Nation was viciously attacked at Pearl Harbor, America's Pacific Fleet was battered and broken, and more than 2,400 American lives were lost. On National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, America honors those brave individuals