



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 15, 2007

I send greetings to those gathered for the 25th Annual Henry M. "Scoop" Jackson Distinguished Service Award, sponsored by the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs. Congratulations to Secretary of Defense Bob Gates on receiving this award.

The United States and Israel share a long history of solidarity and dedication to a safe and secure Jewish state. We are steadfast allies committed to protecting our citizens, confronting new challenges, and advancing the cause of freedom around the world. For more than 20 years, JINSA has worked to support this important political and military relationship by educating our citizens about the importance of American-Israeli security issues.

I appreciate the dedication of JINSA members and all those who work to enhance understanding and respect between our two nations. Your efforts help lay a foundation of peace for generations to come.

Laura and I send our best wishes for a memorable event.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barack" followed by a long horizontal stroke.