

**THE WHITE HOUSE**  
**WASHINGTON**

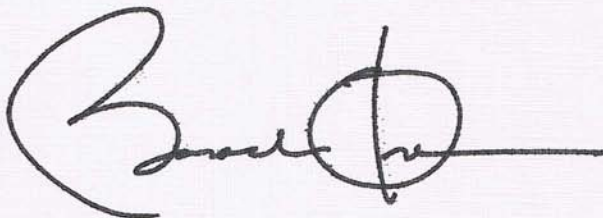
September 8, 2011

I send greetings to all those gathered to celebrate the work of Operation H.O.T.

As a grateful Nation, we pay tribute to our men and women in uniform who dedicate their lives to the defense of our freedoms. It is our moral obligation and great honor to serve these patriots and their families as well as they serve us.

Throughout our history, dedicated individuals have helped support America's heroes, bringing them encouragement and celebrating their extraordinary contributions to our country. As you mark this special occasion, I hope you take pride in the work you do for our service members.

May God bless and protect our troops, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barack Obama". The signature is stylized, with a large, sweeping initial "B" and a circular flourish at the end.