

easier for America to take the steps we need to broaden our horizons, to reach out to other countries, to increase trade. So I thank you for that, and I hope other companies will follow your example because we need more people at work, happy, secure, and supporting the objectives that you have supported.

Make no mistake about it, the winners of the Baldrige Award have done a great service for America, and they have done a service that only the private sector can provide in this great capitalist economy. This is a free enterprise system. Government has responsibilities to set a framework, to promote growth policy, to do those things which cannot be done in the private sector. But in the end we rise or fall economi-

cally based on whether our system is working for the benefit of the people that labor in it day in and day out. And given the fact that so much of our security today and in the future is a question of our economic security and our ability to compete and win, I think it is nowhere near an overstatement to say that these two companies, Ames Rubber and Eastman Chemical, have done a great service not just to themselves, their employees, and their customers but to the United States. And we congratulate them today.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:35 a.m. at the Mellon Auditorium.

Exchange With Reporters

December 14, 1993

Multilateral Trade Negotiations

Q. Mr. President, are you disappointed about audiovisuals in the GATT?

The President. Well, I'm disappointed we didn't get it resolved, but I sure wanted it out of there once I realized—I didn't want to settle for a bad deal. So we took it out, and now it will be subject to the ordinary trade rules. I think it's far better than accepting what was offered. And no one I knew, including the people in the audiovisual industry, thought it was worth bringing the whole thing down over. They just didn't want to get stuck with a bad deal. In other words, if we could get it out, which we did, as Americans, they want our country to benefit from these overall big reductions in tariffs. But they just didn't want to get trapped into something that wasn't good. So I think we're in pretty good shape.

Russia

Q. Mr. President, now that you have had another day to think about the Russian election results—

The President. Well, obviously—no, I haven't talked to anybody about my trip to Russia—any of our people. So I don't know what I'm going to do there. I think that it is—I'll say

just what I said yesterday—I think it was probably largely a protest vote. I think that when people are having a tough time and they have a tough time over a long period of years, they often look for simple answers. It's not unique to Russia. You can see that in many other democracies throughout the world and throughout history. It's not all that unusual. I don't think any of us expect to be giving up Alaska any time soon. But I think, there must be a lot of people in Russia who are extremely frustrated and have a high level of anger because they've been through a lot of tough times.

And the people running the multinational institutions that are trying to help these countries convert from old-line Communist, top-down, command-and-control economies to market economies need to be very sensitive to that. I think we need to ask ourselves not so much about him right now, but about what this means for democracy in Russia, in Poland, and in other republics of the former Soviet Union and the other countries of Eastern Europe. And I'll have more to say about that as we go along.

Q. Would you rule out—

The President. Look, I have talked to nobody about anything. I can't even comment on that. I have not discussed my trip. We have not—except in general terms with my own staff. We've been working on other things. I have

not had time to even think about it.

available for verification of the content of this exchange.

NOTE: The exchange began at approximately 11 a.m. at the Mellon Auditorium. A tape was not

Appointment for Chair of the Commission on Immigration Reform *December 14, 1993*

The President today appointed former Texas Congresswoman Barbara Jordan to chair the Commission on Immigration Reform. The nine-member Commission was created by Congress in 1990 to evaluate the impact of the recent changes in immigration policy and to recommend further changes that might be necessary by September 30, 1994, and again by September 30, 1997.

"I have chosen Barbara Jordan, one of the most well respected people in America, to chair this Commission because immigration is one of

the most important and complex issues facing our country today," said the President. "I am confident that Congresswoman Jordan will use her prodigious talents to thoughtfully address the challenges posed by immigration reform, balance the variety of competing interests, and recommend policies that will be in our country's best interests."

NOTE: A biography of the appointee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Appointment for Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Press Secretary *December 14, 1993*

The President announced today that he has appointed Ginny Terzano to be Special Assistant to the President and Deputy White House Press Secretary. The appointment is effective January 1.

"The perspective that comes with Ginny's experience in the media and as a spokeswoman

will make her a strong addition to our communications team," said the President. "I look forward to her joining us here at the White House."

NOTE: A biography of the appointee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

The President's News Conference *December 15, 1993*

Multilateral Trade Negotiations

The President. With that introduction, ladies and gentlemen, I am pleased to announce that the United States today, as you know, concluded negotiations with over 110 other nations on the most comprehensive trade agreement in history. This agreement eliminates barriers to United States goods and services around the world. It

means new opportunities, more jobs, and higher incomes. And it cements our position of leadership in the new global economy.

This GATT agreement advances the vision of economic renewal that I set out when I took the oath of office. The first task in pursuing that vision was to get our economic house in