I'm sure that a lot of the teenagers think this curfew is too strict. It was a long time ago, but I can still dimly remember what it was like to be that age. But they must also know that it's a dangerous world out there, and these rules are being set by people who love them and care about them and desperately want them to have good lives.

And there is one thread that seems to run through all of these curfew programs across the country, and that is, once they are put in, the most intense supporters of the curfews are young people who know that they are too often at risk of being victims of violent crime. They want our protection, and we ought to give it to them.

So today I directed the Attorney General to distribute this report we did on curfews that are working to mayors and community leaders all across this great country. We want to share what is working, not to tell every place they need it—maybe they don’t—but at least to let them know that it’s out there, that it’s a tool, that people have made it work, that children’s lives have been saved and their futures have been rescued.

We’ve read enough of the other kind of stories; it’s time to read some of the good stories. I want everybody to know about the school uniforms in Long Beach and the curfew in New Orleans. I want people to know that if we work together and we put our children first, we can make a difference and rescue their lives. That’s what I want people to know.

This past January, I had the great honor of speaking at the funeral of my friend and one of this country’s most eloquent women, the great Barbara Jordan. She devoted her entire life to making sure this country lived up to its promise, and she once said, and I quote, “We must address and master the future together. It can be done if we restore the belief that we share a sense of national community, that we share a common national endeavor. It can be done.”

Ladies and gentlemen of this great church, my fellow Americans, can there be any greater national endeavor than saving our children, saving all of our children? Don’t we have to remember—you know, a lot of people in public life love to quote the Scripture, and all of us probably do it selectively. But there are hundreds of admonitions in the Bible, hundreds, to take care of the children, especially the poor children. “Even as you have done it unto the least of these, you have also done it unto me.” If that was true for Jesus, surely it must be true of America.

So I say to you, I honor your commitment; I honor your actions. We must honor these actions I have cited today, but most of all, we must believe that if we will take responsibility for these children and if we will work together, it can be done.

God bless you all, and God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:55 a.m. at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. In his remarks, he referred to Bishop Chandler D. Owens, presiding bishop, Atlanta, GA; Mother Emma Crouch, convention president, Bishop P.A. Brooks, secretary, general board, Detroit, MI; Bishop Gilbert E. Patterson, Memphis, TN; Bishop Charles E. Blake, Los Angeles, CA; Bishop Norman Quick, Bronx, NY; Bishop Melvin E. Clark, Aliquippa, PA; Bishop R.H. Winbush, Lafayette, LA; Bishop W.W. Hamilton, Salinas, CA; Bishop Ithiel Clemons, Hollis, NY; Bishop Neal J. Haynes, DeSoto, TX; Bishop C.L. Anderson, first assistant presiding bishop; and Mayor Marc Morial of New Orleans.

Statement on Drought Relief for Southern Plains States

May 30, 1996

I am today directing the Secretary of Agriculture to take action to provide relief for producers suffering from drought. Specifically, small grain producers with Federal crop insurance who have suffered major small grain and forage crop losses will be eligible for assistance under both the Nominated Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) as well as crop insurance.

Millions of acres of seeded small grain forage have been lost due to drought. Even though all acreage is recognized as grain, some producers intended more than one use from a single...
planting forage for livestock and grain for harvest.

While crop insurance compensates for grain losses, it does not compensate for the forage or grazing values of those crops. To alleviate the extreme hardships the drought caused, NAP provisions are being extended to cover small grain forage and grazing losses, even though the final intended use is grain. This action will provide an estimated $70 million in assistance, primarily to producers in Texas and Oklahoma, many of whom are facing the worst drought in 100 years.

Secretary Glickman made this recommendation to me after visiting the Southern Plains region last month, and having extensive discussions with Congressmen de la Garza, Stenholm, Richardson, Sween, and Senator Bingaman. Their hard work helped us to recognize that if we do not make full use of the tools we have, a lot of farmers may not be in business by the time we finally see adequate rain.

USDA’s NAP program provides crop loss protection for growers of many crops for which Federal crop insurance is not available. Funding for NAP payments is assured, and State offices of USDA’s Farm Service Agency have flexibility to define eligible areas. To be eligible, producers must have a previously established record at their local Farm Service Agency office of both grazing and cropping their small grain acreage.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Reporting on the National Emergency With Respect to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)
May 30, 1996

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

On May 30, 1992, by Executive Order 12808, President Bush declared a national emergency to deal with the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States constituted by the actions and policies of the Governments of Serbia and Montenegro, blocking all property and interests in property of those Governments. President Bush took additional measures to prohibit trade and other transactions with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) by Executive Orders 12810 and 12831, issued on June 5, 1992, and January 15, 1993, respectively.

On April 25, 1993, I issued Executive Order 12846, blocking the property and interests in property of all commercial, industrial, or public utility undertakings or entities organized or located in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) (the “FRY (S&M)”), and prohibiting trade-related transactions by United States persons involving those areas of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina controlled by the Bosnian Serb forces and the United Nations Protected Areas in the Republic of Croatia. On October 25, 1994, because of the actions and policies of the Bosnian Serbs, I expanded the scope of the national emergency by issuance of Executive Order 12934 to block the property of the Bosnian Serb forces and the authorities in the territory that they control within the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as the property of any entity organized or located in, or controlled by any person in, or resident in, those areas.

On December 27, 1995, I issued Presidential Determination No. 96–7, directing the Secretary of the Treasury, inter alia, to suspend the application of sanctions imposed on the FRY (S&M) pursuant to the above-referenced Executive orders and to continue to block property previously blocked until provision is made to address claims or encumbrances, including the claims of the other successor states of the former Yugoslavia. This sanctions relief, in conformity with United Nations Security Council Resolution (“UNSCR”) 1022 of November 22, 1995, was an essential factor motivating Serbia and Montenegro’s acceptance of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina initialed by the parties in Dayton, Ohio, on November 21, 1995 (the “Peace Agreement”), and signed in Paris on December 14, 1995. The sanctions imposed on the FRY (S&M) and on the United Nations Protected Areas in