

solutely sure that we have done everything we can do to support this effort.

In his career as a doctor and through his I Have A Future program in Nashville, Dr. Foster has dedicated his energies to dealing with this complex, profoundly human problem of teen pregnancy, and he's had a remarkable amount of success. In this new role he will work in partnership with community-based organizations all across America to help give our young people the strength and the tools they need to lead responsible and successful lives.

Ultimately, I believe what is needed on this issue is a revolution of the heart. We have to work to instill within every young man and woman a sense of personal responsibility, a sense of self respect, and a sense of possibility. Having a child is the greatest responsibility anybody can assume, and it's still every American parent's most important job. I don't care what else they're doing. And it is not the right choice for a teenager to make before she or he is ready. This message has to be constantly enforced and reinforced by community organizations and by other groups who are in a position to help our children make good choices.

The last point I want to make is that everybody can play a role, and those of us who are older and no longer subject to the drama that these children live with every day find it easier to make these speeches, perhaps, than young people do, but young people are more likely to be more effective in doing it.

So I want to say a special word of thanks to one of the people who met with me today, the young gentleman here to my left, Collin Sears. He is demonstrating the kind of contribution one person can make. He has worked at Baltimore's Young People's Health Connection since he was in middle school, teaching other young people to make the right decisions and to take responsibilities for their lives.

You know, he said—and when we were in the meeting, he was asked what was his most effective argument. And he said, "Well, I really have three strategies that I use," and he laid out his strategies. Afterward, I couldn't help thinking, if he'd been here helping me to lobby Congress on the budget, it might all be solved. [Laughter] I was abso-

lutely carried away that he had, sort of, thought through how he ought to get inside the mind and heart of each young person with whom he was dealing. We need to lift people like him up. We need to lift programs up, like the Best Friends program here in Washington, DC, and I know we have some participants here.

We need to lift these comprehensive efforts up where these people are actually out there now, literally giving their lives to help young people secure a better future for themselves, and we need to do it together. Let me say that there are a lot of things I would like to see done in this country over the next 4 or 5 years. But you just imagine what a difference America could make and what a different America we would have, if we could cut the teen pregnancy rate in half. Just imagine how it could change the whole face of the country and the whole future of America and how our young people think about that future.

That is really what this is about. It is an effort worth making. It ought to be completely bipartisan. We ought to commit ourselves to do it for as long as it takes, year-in and year-out, and we ought to root it in our communities and recognize that every one of us has a role to play and a responsibility to play it.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:53 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to actress Whoopi Goldberg.

Message to the Congress Transmitting a Report on Trade With Bulgaria

January 29, 1996

To the Congress of the United States:

On June 3, 1993, I determined and reported to the Congress that Bulgaria is in full compliance with the freedom of emigration criteria of sections 402 and 409 of the Trade Act of 1974. This action allowed for the continuation of most-favored-nation (MFN) status for Bulgaria and certain other activities without the requirement of a waiver.

As required by law, I am submitting an updated report to the Congress concerning emigration laws and policies of the Republic of Bulgaria. You will find that the report indicates continued Bulgarian compliance with U.S. and international standards in the area of emigration policy.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
January 29, 1996.

**Remarks Prior to Discussions With
Prime Minister Viktor
Chernomyrdin of Russia and an
Exchange With Reporters**

January 30, 1996

Gore-Chernomyrdin Commission

The President. Let me say that we are delighted to have Prime Minister Chernomyrdin here. He and the Vice President have had very good meetings, and the relationship that they have established and the work they have done I think has played a major role in the continued strengthening of our partnership with Russia. And I'm very pleased at the progress of this meeting, and I'm very pleased again to have him here in the United States.

Prime Minister Chernomyrdin. Thank you, Mr. President. We have just held the sixth session of the commission. So we made some significant progress. And I believe that it is due to the organization of your side that it was possible to have some results. Perhaps for the lack of time, we don't have as many results as we could have. Well, I think that this is due to the Vice President, Mr. Gore, that we have this success.

The President. He thought it was due to you.

Russia

Q. President Clinton, are you concerned, and are you going to speak about some of the anti-reform forces that seem to be operating in the former Soviet Union?

The President. Well, we're going to have a discussion about where things are in Russia on a number of issues, but I personally am convinced, by the assurances that I received

from President Yeltsin on our telephone call last week and the record that the Prime Minister himself has established, that Russia is firmly moving forward on reform. And I believe that Russia will receive the support of the International Monetary Fund and the other international institutions, as well as the United States and other allies. I think we'll keep moving in this direction.

They had a good year in 1995: they had inflation down; production was stable; the ruble was stronger. I think that they're seeing some real economic growth there, and it's a record they can be proud of.

Chechnya

Q. What about Chechnya? Are you going to discuss that, and do you have continuing questions about it?

The President. I talked to President Yeltsin about that last week, but we'll have a few words about it.

Welfare Reform

Q. Do you plan to veto a Senate version of the welfare bill, the next welfare bill. There's some talk that conservatives will want to send you a tougher bill than the one that you vetoed last year.

The President. You mean a bill that would be tougher to veto, not a tougher bill. [*Laughter*] The Senate—the version that passed the Senate is a better bill than the bill that they sent me. But in fairness also to the congressional leaders, we discussed welfare reform extensively in the context of the budget negotiations. And I suppose whether they decide to send a separate bill in part depends upon whether we can reach a comprehensive agreement on the budget.

But we had reached some understandings that I think would give us an even better bill. Now the Republicans, to be fair to them, are not bound by any of the discussions we had in the budget because we had a general agreement that nothing was agreed to until everything was agreed to. But we had certainly moved well beyond that bill in our discussions and made some critical improvements, particularly in the question of child care for women who would go into the work force and on the question of how to handle