

up that January 21st oil shipment if Airman Hall is not released?

The President. Well, let me say first of all that we have made it clear to the North Koreans that we want the prompt release of Airman Hall and that there is no reason for his detention. He was on a routine training mission; that's all. They made an error, which we have acknowledged, and drifted into North Korean airspace.

We now have an administration official in North Korea, as you know, and talks are ongoing. And I think it would be premature for me to say anything else at this time. Let's give our people there a chance to do their work and see what happens.

Q. Are we asking for an apology, and isn't there a split in the North Korean Government between the military and the—

The President. I think it would be better for us to say nothing until my representative there has a chance to do his work. And we are in constant contact with him; he's working hard. We want Airman Hall released. There is no reason to detain him. It was a routine training mission. Anything else would be premature at this time.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:14 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on Cyprus December 28, 1994

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. Chairman:)

In accordance with Public Law 95-384 (22 U.S.C. 2373(c)), I am submitting to you this report on progress toward a negotiated settlement of the Cyprus question. The previous report covered progress through September 30, 1994. The current report covers October 1, 1994 through November 30, 1994.

During this period, senior U.S. officials met frequently with President Clerides and other officials of the Republic of Cyprus. In late October, Greek-Cypriot leader Clerides and Turkish-Cypriot leader Denktash had five face-to-face meetings in Nicosia under the auspices of the United Nations. No concrete agreements were reached, but all the main issues involved in a settlement were addressed. Mr. Clerides has stated his willingness to continue discussions if a substantive basis for negotiations is established

within the framework of U.N. resolutions and the high-level agreements of 1977 and 1979.

In addition, Mr. Denktash wrote to U.N. Secretary General Boutros-Ghali on November 21 reaffirming his commitment to a bizonal, bicomunal federation. He has also stated his willingness to enter immediate negotiations with Mr. Clerides. We hope that these statements will facilitate efforts to develop a basis for immediate talks between the two leaders on an early implementation of the U.N.-proposed package of confidence-building measures and on an overall solution.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Claiborne Pell, chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

Statement on the Resignation of R. James Woolsey as Director of Central Intelligence December 28, 1994

Jim Woolsey has been a staunch advocate of maintaining an intelligence capability that is sec-

ond to none. He has taken initiatives to streamline and improve costly collection systems, im-

prove the quality of both analysis and intelligence, and correct security and management lapses in the critical area of counterintelligence. Jim Woolsey deserves the gratitude of all Americans for his service to our country. He has my deep appreciation.

Intelligence is a vital element of our Nation's power and influence. The men and women of U.S. intelligence must know how grateful I am for their dedicated and often unheralded service.

I remain committed to ensuring that they have the support, resources, and leadership needed to continue their outstanding service to their country.

NOTE: This statement was included in a White House statement announcing that the President had accepted the resignation of R. James Woolsey as Director of Central Intelligence at the CIA.

Statement on Grants to Projects Aiding the Homeless

December 29, 1994

It is imperative that we not turn our backs on the Nation's homeless. The number of homeless families and young people suffering from abuse and neglect continues to rise. It is my hope that these grants will help those who need our help the most. I am also pleased that AmeriCorps members will be engaged in the

struggle to end homelessness. This is an example of national service at its best.

NOTE: This statement was included in a White House statement announcing the award of grants to projects aiding the homeless.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Trade With Russia

December 29, 1994

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

On September 21, 1994, I determined and reported to the Congress that the Russian Federation is in full compliance with the freedom of emigration criteria of section 402 and 409 of the Trade Act of 1974. This action allowed for the continuation of most-favored-nation (MFN) status for Russia and certain other activities without the requirement of a waiver.

As required by law, I am submitting an updated report to the Congress concerning the

emigration laws and policies of the Russian Federation. You will find that the report indicates continued Russian compliance with U.S. and international standards in the area of emigration.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Albert Gore, Jr., President of the Senate.

Remarks on the Release of Bobby Hall by North Korea and an Exchange With Reporters

December 29, 1994

The President. Good evening. I have just spoken with Army Chief Warrant Officer Bobby Hall. He's crossed the Demilitarized Zone to

freedom. He's safe. His medical condition is currently being evaluated. But we had a good visit, and he said he was feeling well.