

in my mind, as the United States remains firm and strong and achieves our clearly stated objectives, that we have a chance to solve problems that many never think could be solved around the world and leave behind such a wonderful legacy, not only for our own children but for children of every country. And at the same time, we have an opportunity at home to show the world the true face of America, the heart and soul of the American people.

I want to thank very much Suzanne Tufts for being here today. She is the president and CEO of American Woman's Economic Development Corporation. Right after the enemy attacked, Suzanne and her organization moved quickly to help small businesses affected by the attack, primarily women-owned businesses, to help them, obviously, deal with the shock to their businesses but also help them get back on their feet. It is this kind of compassion and care and concern for a neighbor that is the true strength of the country.

Listen, we're a great military power, and that's good. [*Laughter*] But the true strength of America is not in the halls of Government; it's in the hearts and the souls of our citizens. The thing that makes our country so unique is that we're people that have heard the universal call to love a neighbor like you'd like to be loved yourself.

I'm asked all the time by people, "What can I do to help in the war against terror?" And the answer is: If you want to stand up to evil, do something good for a neighbor in need; if you want to stand up squarely in the face of evil, show somebody you love them. And those don't have to

be magnificent acts of love; they can be small acts of generosity which, in their total, help define America for the rest of the world. Just walking across the street to a lonely shut-in is, in itself, part of the defiance to evil—or mentoring a child, or thanking a teacher, or generosity with your checkbook, or using your time and talents for your church or synagogue or mosque to help people who are hopeless in our society.

Out of this incredible evil done to America, I see great good. I see not only the good of lasting world peace; I see a nation that is more compassionate and hopeful, a nation that understands that by adhering to the admonition to love a neighbor just like you'd like to be loved yourself, we set a clear example of what's possible in other places around the world.

I have been not only amazed, I have been so gladdened by what I've seen and heard about America in the face of this tragedy. Not only are we determined to seek justice; we're determined to right wrongs, to help heal souls, and to help people in need.

It is such an honor to be the President of a country that embraces the entrepreneurial spirit for all. But more importantly, it's an honor to be the President of a country full of decent and heartfelt and compassionate Americans.

God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:10 a.m. in the Atrium Ballroom at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida.

Remarks Following a Cabinet Meeting *March 19, 2002*

Thank you all for coming. We've had a very good Cabinet meeting. I want to thank

my members of the Cabinet for discussing

a variety of topics. I heard from the Secretary of State about the Vice President's visit and the Zinni mission. So we're making progress. We heard, of course, from the Secretary of Defense about our progress in the war on terror, and I appreciate his leadership and the bravery of the military.

We talked about a lot of other issues. One thing I want to urge the Senate to do is to pass 245(i). This bill passed the House, and it now needs to pass the Senate. It is a bill which enhances our border security and, at the same time, says that if someone's living here legally, they won't have to leave the country in order to stay with their family. In other words, they won't have to leave the country, apply, and then come back to be with their family. We believe in family values. We believe good policy keeps families together. The House agreed with us, and the Senate

ought to act. The Senate ought to get this done and particularly soon.

I'm going to Mexico. I want to show our friends the Mexicans that we are compassionate about people who live here on a legal basis, that we don't disrupt the families for people who are here legally. So I think it's going to require some leadership in the Senate, and I look forward to seeing the Senate get this done soon.

And I thank you all for coming today.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:08 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to U.S. Special Envoy to the Middle East Gen. Anthony Zinni, USMC (Ret.); and section 245(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, which expired April 30, 2001. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Message to the Congress Transmitting the 2002 Trade Policy Agenda and 2001 Report on the Trade Agreements Program *March 19, 2002*

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 163 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2213), I transmit herewith the 2002 Trade Policy Agenda and 2001 Annual Report on the

Trade Agreements Program, as prepared by my Administration as of March 1, 2002.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
March 19, 2002.

Interview With Latin American and American Spanish Language Journalists *March 19, 2002*

Visit to Latin America

The President. I'm going to give you an opening statement. But first of all, these observers are simply that.

Q. They're not going to take one question.

The President. They get no questions. They're here just to listen to your questions and my answers. They probably will like your questions and not like my answers. [Laughter]

Anyway, let me talk about the trip from my perspective, and we'll kind of rotate