



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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REMARKS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
JOHN A. VOLPE AT A LUNCHEON HOSTED BY MINISTER LEBER, HOTEL
KOENIGSHOF, JUNE 9, 1969

Minister Leber, (Secretary von Hepe), Ladies and Gentlemen:

I would first like to thank you for your generous remarks and for the privilege of dining with you in this beautiful setting. Many Americans have a sentimental image of the Rhine, and I am one of them. And this afternoon I shall have the pleasure of a cruise along this famous river.

Just three months ago President Nixon began a new era in the NATO Alliance when he personally demonstrated his commitment to consult with our European partners in matters of common interest. I came to Bonn because I wish to follow his lead. Problems in transportation are to a considerable extent international; new ideas for moving people and goods must be developed and shared internationally if our common problems are to be solved.

This morning I had the pleasure of meeting with Minister Leber and Secretary von Hepe. The discussions confirmed my belief that Germany can teach us Americans a great deal about transportation. I hope we will be able to speed up the efforts already under way to collaborate in transportation research and development. The German and American people deserve the benefits such collaboration will bring.

President Nixon has pledged his administration to seek an open world -- open to ideas, open to the exchange of goods and people. It is in this spirit that we listen as well as speak. Science and technology bring the nations of the world ever closer to each other, but it remains for us as individuals, and as nations, to ensure that the channels of communication opened to us are used to increase mutual understanding and obtain for all of us a more generous, a more peaceful and happier world.

May I propose a toast to Minister Leber and Secretary von Hepe.

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