



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

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## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

REMARKS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY INSIDE BOEING 747 BY SECRETARY OF  
TRANSPORTATION JOHN A. VOLPE UPON ARRIVAL AT LE BOURGET AIRPORT,  
PARIS, FRANCE, JUNE 5, 1969

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a pleasure for me to come to France just a few months after President Nixon inaugurated a new period in French-American relations. The Paris Air Show is a particularly good reminder to all Americans that their oldest friend remains young and vital and oriented to the future.

As I look around this incredible airplane, I can sense the excitement of a new age. With its size and speed, its luxurious appointments, and its remarkable operating efficiencies, the 747 points to a revolution in international air travel.

But the 747 is just one example of what this age is all about. The Paris Air Show is the greatest attraction of its kind because it draws the latest and best technology from every important aircraft-producing country in the world. One reason why I'm here is that I am anxious to see some of these developments for myself.

Another reason why I'm here, however, is that I realize --- in spite of today's technological sophistication --- that there are always transportation problems to be solved. Problems of air traffic and air-passenger congestion, for example; or problems of urban transportation; or problems of tight budgets and increasing costs. I believe that the nations of the world cannot afford to work independently in devising solutions to these problems. A paraphrase from the words of that well-known Francophile, Benjamin Franklin, might be appropriate here: If we do not stick together in transportation matters, surely we will find ourselves stuck with an increasingly discouraging outlook for an end to the burgeoning problems all countries face in the transportation field.

I and the entire U.S. Department of Transportation are eager to work with France and all other countries to improve our transportation systems and thereby to contribute to mankind's quest for international understanding and world peace.

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