



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20590

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STATEMENT OF SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION JOHN A. VOLPE UPON HIS ARRIVAL  
IN ROME ITALY, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1969

I am delighted to have this opportunity to visit Italy once again and to be able, not only to renew the many warm friendships of long standing I have enjoyed with so many Italians in all walks of life, but also on this occasion to have the opportunity to bring to President Saragat, Prime Minister Rumor and Foreign Minister Moro the greetings of President Nixon. President Nixon, I know, considers his visit to Italy in February this year to have been one of the high points in his trip to Europe and he has asked me to convey his warm greetings to the Government and people of Italy. During my stay, I hope to have fruitful conversations with Minister Gaspari and other distinguished members of the Government on matters involving transportation. International transportation is a field which provides the physical links between our two countries and thereby plays a major role in maintaining the profound psychological links of friendship and community of interest between Italy and the United States. I hope that through examination and discussion with the Italian Government of some of the problems which exist in the field of transportation, the framework can be established for a closer and more fruitful collaboration on the many aspects of transportation, both international and internal which will have an ever-increasing impact on the lives of all of us.

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Among the specific proposals I hope to discuss are the possibility of pooling the talents of Italian and United States researchers into the many new technological developments in the field of transportation. The United States hopes in this way to be able to benefit from Italy's well-known achievements in this field and to cooperate in attacking the problems of rapid urban transportation, air traffic control, anti-pollution activities and many others which we have in common as industrial powers. We have a great deal to learn from your successes and hope that we may be able, through joint research and development, to contribute something in this field to the harmonious relationships we enjoy in so many other areas.

Let me also say that I consider it a very great honor and privilege to bring the greetings of my President to His Holiness the Pope. This is the first official visit to the Vatican by a member of the Nixon Cabinet, and it is a source of humble pride to me that I was selected for this mission.

After my talks in Rome, I plan to visit Pescara, Pesconsenso, Milan and Genoa.

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