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REMARKS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
JOHN A. VOLPE IN RESPONSE TO ALITALIA TOAST, ROME, ITALY,
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1969

Ing. Velani, allow me to thank you for your delightful hospitality and the opportunity you have afforded me to see the impressive headquarters building of Alitalia. Your organization has grown in a relatively brief period of time into one of the world's greatest airlines flying to 90 cities and 51 countries and providing one of the main physical links between our two countries.

Your company, as I have good reason to know, is making its voice clearly heard in the councils of the international aviation community.

I am a great believer in the future of aviation and the role it has played and will play in fostering international understanding by making it possible for citizens in all walks of life to see other nations and peoples at first hand and get to know their culture and history.

Within the year, Alitalia will be one of those airlines flying the great new jumbo jets across the Atlantic. With the advent of these great airplanes, transatlantic travel may reach a new order of magnitude and Alitalia, together with the American carriers flying to Italy, will, I know, continue to play an important role in strengthening the links of direct human contact between our two countries.