



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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STATEMENT BY SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION CLAUDE S. BRINEGAR ON
PROBLEMS INVOLVING MOTOR TRUCK OPERATORS, DECEMBER 5, 1973

Secretary Claude S. Brinegar today expressed the Government's deep concern about the sporadic demonstrations by truck operators blocking key highways at various places around the country. The Secretary called for the cooperation of truckers in avoiding disruption of traffic while an effort is made to find solutions to the problems.

The Secretary said, "I am well aware these truckers, who play such a vital role in maintaining the strength and growth of our economy, are now experiencing serious problems." As an example of the Government's concern he pointed to the high priority given to fuel for trucking operations by the proposed allocation program.

Secretary Brinegar announced the following immediate actions to help the truckers with their problems:

- Investigation by the Internal Revenue Service of the alleged price gouging on truck fuel sales.
- Review by the Office of Petroleum Allocation of the fuel supply at truck stops.
- Investigation of problems arising from the impact of sharply higher fuel costs on rate schedules.

The Secretary and his staff have been meeting personally with truckers and plan to continue these consultations.

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