

**FILE**

OCT 31 1978

REMARKS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION  
BROCK ADAMS TO THE GREAT LAKES TASK FORCE, TOLEDO, OHIO,  
NOVEMBER 2, 1978.

FIRST, LET ME THANK YOU FOR THE INVITATION. THIS TASK  
FORCE REPRESENTS AN EXCELLENT CROSS-SECTION OF LEADERSHIP  
FROM INDUSTRY, LABOR AND THE PORTS, AND YOUR OPINIONS ARE  
RESPECTED IN THE ADMINISTRATION AND ON CAPITOL HILL.

IF BY CHANCE I FAIL TO HEAR YOUR VOICE, DAVE OBERLIN  
IS THERE TO REMIND ME.

FOR INSTANCE, WHEN DAVE BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION THE IMPACT OF THE ORIGINAL TRIGGER PRICE MECHANISM ON IMPORTED STEEL MOVING THROUGH THE SEAWAY, I ASKED TREASURY SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL TO HELP RESTORE THE TRADITIONAL RELATIONSHIPS OF THE GREAT LAKES WITH THE OTHER SEACOASTS. TOGETHER, WE WERE ABLE TO DO SO.

WHEN I CAME TO THE DEPARTMENT, I WAS SURPRISED BY THE  
RELATIVELY SMALL INVOLVEMENT WE HAD WITH WATER TRANSPORTATION.

THAT'S CHANGING. WE'RE INTERESTED AS YOU ARE IN MORE  
BUSINESS ALONG THE GREAT LAKES. THE COAST GUARD IS DOING ALL  
IT CAN TO EXTEND THE SHIPPING SEASON ON THE SEAWAY.



THIS YEAR, FOR THE FIRST TIME, CONGRESS PASSED A WATERWAY USER TAX. THE TAX IS A MODEST ONE -- FOUR CENTS A GALLON ON DIESEL FUEL TO BEGIN WITH. BUT IT WILL HELP MEET FEDERAL OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES. AND IT WILL MAKE THE SEAWAY, WHICH ALREADY HAS USER CHARGES IN THE FORM OF TOLLS, MORE COMPETITIVE WITH THE INLAND WATERWAYS.

I KNOW ONE OF YOUR OBJECTIVES IS THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NATIONAL SYSTEM IN WHICH THE SEAWAY AND OUR OTHER WATERWAYS WILL RECEIVE EQUAL TREATMENT. I ASSURE YOU WE ARE MOVING IN THAT DIRECTION.

WE ALSO WANT TO CONTINUE OUR WINTER NAVIGATION  
DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM. OUR GOAL, LIKE YOURS, IS TO KEEP  
CHANNELS OPEN TO COMMERCIAL SHIPPING THROUGHOUT THE WINTER.

THE TEST PROGRAM ON THE ST. LAWRENCE RIVER, SCHEDULED  
FOR THIS WINTER, HAS RUN INTO SOME ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIONS  
FROM THE STATE OF NEW YORK. WE EXPECT THE WAY CAN BE CLEARED  
FOR A RESUMPTION OF THE DEMONSTRATION WORK DURING THE WINTER  
OF 1979-80.

THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE SEAWAY IS IMPORTANT TO YOU,  
AND TO THIS CITY, BECAUSE OUR "FOURTH SEACOAST" IS A VALUABLE  
TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC ASSET.

LAST YEAR SET NEW RECORDS -- WITH A TOTAL TONNAGE OF MORE  
THAN 63 MILLION TONS AND NEW "HIGHS" IN FIVE INDIVIDUAL CARGO  
CATEGORIES.

TOLEDO HANDLED 25 MILLION TONS OF CARGO IN 1976 --  
FOURTH BEST OF ALL U.S. GREAT LAKES PORT CITIES. THE  
TOLEDO-LUCAS COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY DESERVES CREDIT FOR THIS  
RECORD, AND SO DOES "LUD" ASHLEY, WHO HAS LONG SUPPORTED  
TOLEDO'S MARINE COMMERCE.



I HAVE KNOWN CONGRESSMAN ASHLEY MANY YEARS AND HAVE A  
HIGH REGARD FOR HIS ABILITIES. HE SERVES ON THE BUDGET  
COMMITTEE AND THE MERCHANT MARINE AND FISHERIES COMMITTEE,  
SO HE IS IN THE RIGHT PLACE TO SERVE THE INTERESTS OF THE  
PEOPLE OF TOLEDO.

I MIGHT ADD THAT THE GROWTH OF YOUR SEAPORT AND YOUR AIRPORT GO HAND-IN-HAND. THE ANTICIPATION OF FARE AND ROUTE DEREGULATION PRODUCED RECORD NUMBERS OF AIR TRAVELERS LAST SUMMER, AND WITH AIRLINE REGULATION NOW ENDED -- THE PRESIDENT SIGNED THE BILL LAST WEEK -- WE CAN EXPECT MORE COMPETITION AND MORE PEOPLE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE LOWER FARES AND INCREASED SERVICE.

WITH THE GROWING WORLD DEMAND FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS,  
AND OUR NEED FOR COAL, WE CAN ALSO EXPECT A GROWTH IN DEMAND  
FOR WATER TRANSPORTATION.

YOU ARE IN A POSITION HERE IN TOLEDO TO BENEFIT FROM BOTH  
DEVELOPMENTS, THROUGH YOUR EXCELLENT WATER AND AIRPORT FACILITIES.

I WISH YOU MUCH CONTINUED SUCCESS.

# # # # #