REMARKS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION BROCK ADAMS, AT THE LAMBERT FIELD NEWS CONFERENCE, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, OCTOBER 26, 1978.

Senator Eagleton, Congressman Young, Mayor Conway, Supervisor McNary; I'm glad to be back here today, to make good on my commitment of last November. I said then that improvements at Lambert Field would be a priority.

In keeping with that promise, I'm happy to announce an additional \$11.4 million in airport development aid program (ADAP) funds for taxiway and apron construction projects. These projects can proceed right now, because work of this type does not have any significant effect on the environment.

Together with nearly \$6 million approved last May, we have a total Federal commitment to Lambert Field of more than \$17 million.

And we will continue to provide Federal assistance, from the resources available, to upgrade and improve Lambert Field. I don't want any doubt about this airport's ability to serve the air transportation needs of the greater St. Louis area, for the foreseeable future.

One reason for making the announcement today is so that the city and airlines can proceed with financial plans for the overall improvement program.

I admire the commitment of the people of St. Louis to better transportation services and facilities, and the confidence the leaders of this community have in the future of this airport and the growth of this region. The FAA will assist you in every way possible in meeting the air transportation needs of this area.

I want to thank you for inviting me here today. Nineteen months ago I made a decision $\underline{\text{for}}$ Lambert Field. I believe this airport can and will serve the growing metropolitan community.

I stand by that decision. The plan here is a good one. Community support is strong, and the signs of progress are unmistakable. I know the Congressional Delegation and local officials are behind us. Together we can do whatever is necessary to keep Lambert Field one of our nation's best, safest, and most convenient airports.

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