

NOTES PREPARED FOR
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION ELIZABETH HANFORD DOLE
TO THE LOTT/OXLEY WASHINGTON CONFERENCE
WASHINGTON, D. C.
MAY 6, 1985

PREPARED BY: DRUCELLA ANDERSON

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BACKGROUND:

YOU ARE SCHEDULED TO ADDRESS 240 CONSTITUENTS ATTENDING CONGRESSMEN TRENT LOTT (R.-MISS.) AND MICHAEL OXLEY'S (R.-OHIO) WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ON MAY 6, 1985 IN ROOM 345 OF THE CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING. SPOUSES ARE INVITED. THE EVENT BEGINS AT 2:15 AND THEY HAVE ASKED YOU TO SPEAK FOR 15 MINUTES, AND THEN TAKE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR A 15 MINUTE PERIOD. YOU WILL FOLLOW SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR ON THE PROGRAM AND PAUL VOLKER WILL SPEAK AFTER YOU. YOU WILL BE INTRODUCED BY TRENT LOTT. THE OHIO GROUP IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN CONRAIL AND AMTRAK. THE OHIO GROUP INCLUDES A LARGE NUMBER OF FARMERS AND LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS, I.E., COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. THE MISSISSIPPI CONSTITUENTS INDICATED AN INTEREST.

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IN. DRUG INTERDICTION AND ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICE. INCLUDED ARE SOME
TALKING POINTS AND LOCAL COLOR APPROPRIATE FOR THIS EVENT.

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* SUGGESTED INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS: THANK YOU TRENT FOR THAT
VERY WARM WELCOME. WHAT A JOY IT IS TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO
MEET THIS DISTINGUISHED GROUP OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM MISSISSIPPI
AND OHIO. IT IS MY PLEASURE TO WORK WITH BOTH TRENT AND MIKE ON A
NUMBER OF ISSUES AND I'VE FOUND THEM TO BE AMONG THE MOST HIGHLY
SKILLED AND CONSCIENTIOUS LEGISLATORS IN WASHINGTON. I CAN ASSURE
YOU THAT WHEN YOU ELECTED THEM, YOU PICKED PEOPLE WITH YOUR STATES'
BEST INTERESTS AT HEART AS WELL AS OUR NATION'S BEST INTERESTS.

* MISSISSIPPI QUOTE: "THE MISSISSIPPI (RIVER) HAS SERVED THE
NATION AS A HIGHWAY, AND AS A BATTLEGROUND; IT HAS BEEN A ROAD TO
OPPORTUNITY; AN INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND A UNIFYING FORCE. IT
STILL REMAINS THE DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN 'BACK EAST' AND 'OUT WEST.'"

-- PERRY T. RATHBONE; MISSISSIPPI PANORAMA.

* JOKE: I AM REMINDED OF THE STORY OF A STEAMBOAT CAPTAIN WHO, DURING A TRIP DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER, COMFORTED A NERVOUS PASSENGER BY SAYING, "I'VE BEEN RUNNING BOATS ON THIS RIVER SO LONG I KNOW WHERE EVERY SHOAL AND SANDBAR IS." JUST THEN, THE BOAT WENT AGROUND WITH SUCH FORCE THAT IT SHOOK FROM STEM TO STERN. "THERE," SAID THE CAPTAIN, "THAT'S ONE OF THEM NOW."

* OHIO: STATE SONG: "BEAUTIFUL OHIO." THE MOST URBAN STATE IN THE NATION, OHIO HAS ALSO BEEN ONE OF THE MOST PIVOTAL IN AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT.

* OHIO QUOTE: "TRAVELING ACROSS OHIO'S FERTILE ACRES, ONE FEELS IN THE VERY ATMOSPHERE A COMBINATION OF STABILITY AND PROGRESS."

-- PEARL S. BUCK; AMERICA; 1971.

* NOTE: THE ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE OHIO GROUP ARE CONRAIL AND AMTRAK. THE ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE MISSISSIPPI DELEGATION INCLUDE DRUG INTERDICTION.

* PRESIDENTIAL QUOTE: IN HIS RECENT TELEVISED SPEECH TO THE NATION, PRESIDENT REAGAN SAID, "ALL OF US TOGETHER HAVE A SHARED INTEREST IN A HEALTHY, EXPANDING ECONOMY: IT MEANS JOBS, OPPORTUNITIES, AND RISING INCOMES FOR OUR YOUNGER CITIZENS, AND A STEADY FLOW OF TAX PAYMENTS INTO THE FUNDS THAT SUPPORT OUR RETIRED CITIZENS.... BUT THERE IS NO MAGIC MONEY MACHINE. EVERY DOLLAR THE GOVERNMENT SPENDS COMES OUT OF YOUR POCKETS. EVERY DOLLAR THE GOVERNMENT GIVES TO SOMEONE HAS TO FIRST BE TAKEN AWAY FROM SOMEONE ELSE. SO IT IS OUR MORAL DUTY TO MAKE SURE THAT WE CAN JUSTIFY

EVERY ONE OF YOUR TAX DOLLARS, THAT WE SPEND THEM WISELY AND CAREFULLY AND, JUST AS IMPORTANT, FAIRLY."

* CONRAIL TALKING POINTS FOR OHIO AND MISSISSIPPI: THE MERGER OF NORFOLK SOUTHERN AND CONRAIL IS EXPECTED TO HAVE A PROCOMPETITIVE EFFECT ON OHIO SHIPPERS. THE ADDITION OF THE PITTSBURGH & LAKE ERIE AND GUILFORD SYSTEMS TO THE STATE SHOULD ESPECIALLY ENHANCE COMPETITION FOR NORTH-SOUTH RAIL MOVEMENTS IN OHIO, ESPECIALLY VIA CINCINNATI. THE MERGER SHOULD ALSO REDUCE TRACK ABANDONMENTS WITHIN THE STATE. MANY LINES SCHEDULED FOR ABANDONMENT WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO GUILFORD OR THE P&LE THROUGH THE DIVESTITURE PROCESS, MAKE THE P&LE ESPECIALLY ABLE TO OPERATE AS A REGIONAL CARRIER. UNDER THE DIVESTITURE PLAN, 657 MILES OF TRACK IN OHIO WILL BE SOLD OR TRANSFERRED. OHIO SHIPPERS WILL BENEFIT FROM THE COMBINATION OF

THESE TWO RAIL CARRIERS BECAUSE NORFOLK SOUTHERN WILL BE ABLE TO OFFER SINGLE LINE SERVICE TO MANY POINTS IN THE SOUTH WHICH WERE ORIGINALLY JOINT LINE MOVEMENTS BETWEEN CONRAIL AND NORFOLK SOUTHERN.

* SHIPPERS IN THE SOUTH WILL ALSO BENEFIT FROM THE SALE SINCE IT WILL ENABLE NORFOLK SOUTHERN TO OFFER ITS MISSISSIPPI SHIPPERS SINGLE LINE SERVICE TO MANY POINTS IN THE NORTHEAST THAT WERE ORIGINALLY JOINT LINE MOVEMENTS BETWEEN CONRAIL AND NORFOLK SOUTHERN. THIS SHOULD RESULT IN FASTER, MORE ECONOMICAL SERVICE AT A LOWER PRICE.

* THE SALE OF CONRAIL TO NORFOLK SOUTHERN WILL NOT CHANGE THE CURRENT COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR SHIPPERS IN MISSISSIPPI. AS A RESULT OF THE DIVESTITURE OF LINES BY THE NORFOLK SOUTHERN TO GUILFORD.

TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRIES, THE SAME NUMBER OF COMPETITIVE CHOICES WILL STILL BE AVAILABLE TO SHIPPERS USING THE ST. LOUIS GATEWAY.

* COAST GUARD TALKING POINTS: THE COAST GUARD'S SEARCH AND RESCUE EFFORTS SAVE THOUSANDS OF LIVES EVERY YEAR. FOR EXAMPLE, IN ONE RECENT 24-HOUR PERIOD IN FLORIDA, THE COAST GUARD PULLED 31 PEOPLE OFF TWO TROUBLED VESSELS, SEARCHED FOR THREE PEOPLE WHO HAD BEEN ABOARD ANOTHER CRAFT AND FOUND A HELICOPTER UNDER 20 FEET OF WATER.

THE COAST GUARD IS ALSO A PROUD MEMBER OF AMERICA'S DEFENSE TEAM. AND THE COAST GUARD'S ROLE IN DRUG INTERDICTION IS VITAL IN OUR EFFORTS AS A NATION TO END THIS DRUG TRAFFIC WHICH RESULTS IN SO MANY TRAGEDIES. THE COAST GUARD JUST RECENTLY COMPLETED OPERATION BLUE LIGHTNING, A 17-DAY EFFORT NEAR THE BAHAMA ISLANDS AND THE

SOUTHEAST COAST OF FLORIDA, WHICH HAS HISTORICALLY BEEN THE IMPORT AREA FOR DRUGS SMUGGLED INTO THE UNITED STATES. THIS EFFORT INVOLVED 26 AGENCIES OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS AND 775 PEOPLE USING 85 VESSELS AND 30 AIRCRAFT. THE IDEA WAS TO INTERCEPT THOSE SMUGGLERS APPROACHING THE FLORIDA COAST FROM THE BAHAMAS WHO HAD BEEN "FLUSHED OUT" BY THE PRESSURE BEING APPLIED IN THE ISLANDS. THIS OPERATION RESULTED IN THE INTERDICTION OF 5,500 POUNDS OF COCAINE AND 33,000 POUNDS OF MARIJUANA, WITH A COMBINED STREET VALUE OF ALMOST \$1 BILLION. I AM PRIVILEGED TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT BOARD. I FIRMLY BELIEVE WE MUST DO EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER TO MAKE SURE DRUGS ARE KEPT OUT OF THIS COUNTRY. I AM ESPECIALLY PLEASED ABOUT OUR PROPOSED NEW COAST GUARD STATION AT GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI. THE PROJECT IS SCHEDULED FOR GROUND BREAKING .

IN MAY AND WE EXPECT COMPLETION IN APRIL 1986. THE NEW MULTI-MISSION STATION WILL IMPROVE OUR RESPONSIVENESS TO DISTRESS INCIDENTS AND INCREASE OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT CAPABILITY IN AN AREA OF GROWING ECONOMIC ACTIVITY.

* HIGHWAY SAFETY: OHIO: OCCUPANT PROTECTION BILLS INTRODUCED IN STATE HOUSE AND SENATE, BOTH AWAITING FLOOR VOTES. DRINKING AGE IS 19 FOR WINE AND BEER IS 19. OHIO VOTERS REJECTED A PETITION IN 1983 FOR A 21-YEAR-OLD DRINKING AGE. NO FURTHER BILLS HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED TO RAISE THE AGE. IN 1984, THE OHIO SAFETY BELT COALITION WAS DEVELOPED TO ENCOURAGE A STATE-WIDE NETWORK OF CORPORATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE VOLUNTARY PROMOTION OF SAFETY BELT USAGE. OVER 600 SAFETY GROUPS, BUSINESSES

AND ORGANIZATIONS WERE CONTACTED AND ENCOURAGED TO JOIN THE COALITION.

* MISSISSIPPI: IN MARCH, GOVERNOR ALLAIN SIGNED A BILL RAISING THE DRINKING AGE TO 21. TWO MANDATORY SAFETY BELT BILLS WERE INTRODUCED DURING THE 1985 LEGISLATIVE SESSION, BUT BOTH BILLS WERE DEFEATED. YOU HONORED MAY DALE DANKS OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, AS ONE OF THE FOUR WINNING CITIES THAT PARTICIPATED IN A NATIONAL CONTEST (KNOWN AS THE "SANTA FE CHALLENGE") DESIGNED TO INCREASE THE USE OF SAFETY BELTS IN COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY. THE CITY OF JACKSON RECEIVED THE AWARD FOR THE HIGHEST REPORTED PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN SAFETY BELT USE. THE CITY'S BELT USAGE RATE JUMPED FROM 5.8 PERCENT TO 27 PERCENT FOR A TOAL INCREASE OF 22 PERCENT.