

SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION ANDREW H. CARD, JR.
ACCEPTING GIFT FROM ITALY ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT AT 10:45 A.M. AS
THE SHIP AMERIGO VESPUCCI PASSES THE REVIEWING STANDS
JULY 4, 1992
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Thank you very much, Ambassador **Boris Biancheri** (Bee-ahn-kerri). On behalf of President George Bush and the American people, I accept this beautiful gift -- the Columbus Sail -- from the people of Italy. The monument is a symbol of the lasting ties and close friendship that bind our two nations. It will keep Americans ever mindful that Christopher Columbus' urge "to navigate, to fly, to dream," forever linked the Old World and the New.

Be assured that this magnificent sculpture will rest in a place of honor in our country -- for all Americans to view and treasure in the decades and centuries ahead. Mr. Ambassador, please take home to Italy the gratitude and good wishes of the President of the United States and the American people.

###