

SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION ANDREW CARD JR.
DOT REGIONAL EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION WORKSHOP VIDEO SCRIPT
MAY 21, 1992

Let me welcome you to the DOT Regional Emergency Transportation Workshop for 1992.

I admire your dedication to meeting the needs of people in emergency situations -- be they floods, fires or hurricanes.

As Secretary of this agency I'm very much aware of the need for an effective emergency preparedness program -- especially at the regional level. In fact, one of my first official acts as Secretary was to sign the FEDERAL RESPONSE PLAN on behalf of the Department.

If we are to respond -- rather than simply react -- to a disaster, we must have regional emergency organizations in place which can provide timely and accurate information. I will depend on each and every one of you to determine quickly where federal transportation assistance is needed. And then to respond as efficiently and effectively as possible.

Crisis management staffs organized by regional Emergency Transportation Coordinators have a fine reputation for getting the job done right -- for their accurate reporting of critical information and for the

swift implementation of their contingency response plans.

You have quite a reputation to uphold -- I know I can count on you.

Besides natural disasters, there is always the possibility of international conflict -- and the department will continue its role in defense planning and preparedness.

Our outstanding success in moving people and equipment to the Persian Gulf -- some 9,000 mile away -- was made possible because of the hard work in planning for such a crisis.

And I encourage each of you to continue that high level of preparedness.

Before I close, I want to acknowledge the contributions of our dedicated National Defense Executive Reservists from the business community. Thank you for volunteering your time and energy. Your commitment to serving the Department in times of crisis is important and appreciated. Be assured that we need your expertise.

Thank you all again for participating in this important training workshop program.

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