



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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SPOTMASTER 73-4

Broadcast: Friday, January 5, 1973

This is the U.S. Department of Transportation News Service for Friday, January 5 with material for use Saturday and Sunday, on a tire recall and actualities on billboard removal.

First, for Saturday release, a Department spokesman speaking on a tire recall.

"The Mansfield Tire and Rubber Company is going to recall 500 of its tires after being notified by the Department of Transportation that they failed to meet certain Federal requirements. The company agreed to recall the Power Falcon 4 ply nylon Whitewall tires -- size 8.45 by 15 -- after a sampling of the tires failed to meet the safety standard endurance test. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said continued use of the tires in question could be hazardous under certain circumstances -- and is continuing its investigation with a view toward possible civil penalties."

The following is for release Sunday, January 7. Transportation Secretary John Volpe has announced that more than 71,000 billboards have been removed from the nation's highways under the Department's Outdoor Advertising Removal Program. Commenting on the story is Acting Federal Highway Administrator Ralph Bartelsmeyer.

"This demonstrates significant progress in the program. However, since the figures are not complete for 1972, I anticipate that when the final results are tabulated for the year, about 100,000 billboards will have been removed in the United States. And, in keeping with the Nixon Administration's efforts in this field, the removal activity will be accelerated in the future.

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"Billboards are prohibited within 660 feet of the right-of-way of Federal-aid Interstate and Primary Highways. Colorado leads all states in the number of billboards removed -- 11,300. Other states with good records include Georgia, Wyoming and Montana."

This has been the Transportation News Report for Friday, January 5.

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