



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

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The U.S. Department of Transportation Broadcast News Service for Wednesday, June 6 has an actuality by Secretary Brinegar and a story on safety belts.

First, Transportation Secretary Claude Brinegar today urged the graduating class of the Coast Guard Academy to join in working to improve transportation. Speaking at New London, Connecticut, he commented:

"My early months in the Department of Transportation have proved to me that it is an exciting and challenging place. We are all at the heart of the Nation's future, its ability to move its goods and its people, efficiently, safely, and in a way that protects our environment. We have a great deal to do, your role is expanding as we recognize the needs to serve the Nation as a peacetime force."

Next, a story by a Department spokesman on safety belts.

"Transportation Secretary Claude Brinegar today commended Puerto Rico for adopting mandatory safety belt usage laws. The Commonwealth approved two laws requiring the mandatory use of safety belts in all 1965 or later motor vehicles starting next January. In a telegram to Puerto Rican Governor Rafael Hernandez Colon, Secretary Brinegar expressed the hope that the action will spur all the states to accelerate the enactment of safety belt laws, which are now being considered in 32 states. Under the Puerto Rican law, fines from \$10 to \$25 will be levied for violations. Australia already has laws requiring the mandatory use of safety belts and has reported a 20% reduction in highway fatalities."

This has been the Transportation News Report.

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