



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

SPOTMASTER 73-152

Broadcast: Tuesday, July 31, 1973

The U.S. Department of Transportation Broadcast News Service for Tuesday, July 31 has an actuality on women in the Coast Guard and a story on fuel consumption.

First, the Coast Guard Chief Counsel, Rear Admiral Ricardo Ratti testified today before a subcommittee of the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, on a bill which would provide for the appointment and enlistment of women in the Coast Guard Reserve and eliminate the Women's Reserve as a separate branch. Admiral Ratti said:

"After enactment of the bill there would only be one Coast Guard Reserve, composed of both male and female members. The Coast Guard no longer needs a separate and distinct Women's Reserve operating apart from the mainstream of the Coast Guard. The times and needs of the service clearly call for the integration of women into the Coast Guard Reserve. We do not contemplate that this legislation would create additional Coast Guard personnel to any significant degree. Women would simply occupy positions formerly held by male members. Enactment of this legislation is the first step toward our ultimate goal of integration of women into the Coast Guard, both regular and reserve."

Next, a story by a Department spokesman on motor fuel consumption in the U.S.

"The Federal Highway Administration says that a record 105.6 billion gallons of motor fuel were consumed last year in the United States. The figure was almost 8% higher than in the previous year, the greatest annual increase in 17 years.

"The information is based on reports from state agencies which indicated tax income from the fuel of more than \$7 billion. Federal taxes, which go to the Highway Trust Fund, are not included in this report."

This has been the Transportation News Report.

####