

## CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

# WESTERN UNION

## TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

R. W. MCFALL  
PRESIDENT

## SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LT = International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination

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1966 OCT 11 AM 12 1

NL PD WASHINGTON DC 10

SENATOR THOMAS J DODD, ROOM 105B

WASHDC  
105B

ON BEHALF OF THE 32 AFL - CIO MARITIME UNIONS AFFILIATED WITH THE AFL-CIO MARITIME TRADES DEPARTMENT I WISH TO CALL YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM SENT OCTOBER 10 BY AFL - CIO PRESIDENT GEORGE MEANY TO ALL SENATE AND HOUSE CONFEREES ON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION:

"THE AFL-CIO WISHES TO REAFFIRM ITS POSITION IN RELATION TO ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT MARITIME AGENCY. AS ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ON AUGUST 24, 1966 THAT STATEMENT IS AS FOLLOWS:

"TODAY THE AMERICAN MERCHANT MARINE IS BEING CALLED UPON TO MEET A WAR SITUATION FOR THE THIRD TIME IN 25 YEARS. OWING TO THE NEGLECT OF THIS INDUSTRY BY THE GOVERNMENT SINCE THE

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END OF WORLD WAR II, AND THE FAILURE OF THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT TO FORESEE AND ADMIT THE NEED FOR MERCHANT SHIPS TO TRANSPORT TROOPS AND SUPPLIES ACROSS THE SEAS, THE CONDITION OF THE MERCHANT FLEET, ITS SUPPORTING SHIPYARDS AND AVAILABLE SKILLED MANPOWER HAVE REACHED THE POINT OF CRISIS.

"MERCHANT SHIPPING HAS PLAYED A VITAL PART IN AMERICAN HISTORY. TODAY, AS THE RESULT OF SHORT - SIGHTED POLICIES ON THE PART OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WITH NO UNDERSTANDING OR SYMPATHY WITH THE SIGNIFICANCE OF COMMERCIAL SEA POWER, WE HAVE FALLEN TO THIRD - RATE STATUS AMONG THE MARITIME NATIONS.

"THIS NEGLECT, WHICH GRAVELY THREATENS THE SECURITY OF THE NATION AND THE MAINTENANCE OF OUR OVERSEAS COMMITMENTS, WOULD CONTINUE IF THE MARITIME ADMINISTRATION IS PERMITTED TO BE BURIED IN ANOTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT,

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WITH CONFLICTING AND COMPETING INTERESTS, WHETHER TRANSPORTATION OR COMMERCE. TO PREVENT THE ESSENTIAL NEEDS OF THIS VITAL INDUSTRY FROM BEING CONGINUALLY IGNORED AND SUBMERGED, AND TO MAKE POSSIBLE THE STEPS NECESSARY TO ITS REVIVAL, THE RESPONSIBILITY MUST BE PLACED IN AN AGENCY WHICH HAS THE STATUS AND AUTHORITY NECESSARY FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF ITS DUTIES. WE THEREFORE STRONGLY SUPPORT THE EFFORT TO ESTABLISH AN INDEPENDENT MARITIME AGENCY."

"WE RESPECTFULLY URGE THE CONFEREES TO GIVE FULL CONSIDERATION TO THIS POSITION IN ACTION ON THE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT BILLS PASSED BY THE TWO HOUSES.

"GEORGE MEANY, PRESIDENT

"AFL-CIO"

AFL-CIO MARITIME TRADES DEPARTMENT

, PRESIDENT.