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**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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FOREWORD

This report of the proceedings of the Sixth International Technical Conference on Experimental Safety Vehicles was prepared by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation.

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For clarity and because of some translation difficulties, a certain amount of editing was necessary. Apologies are, therefore, offered where the transcription is not exact.



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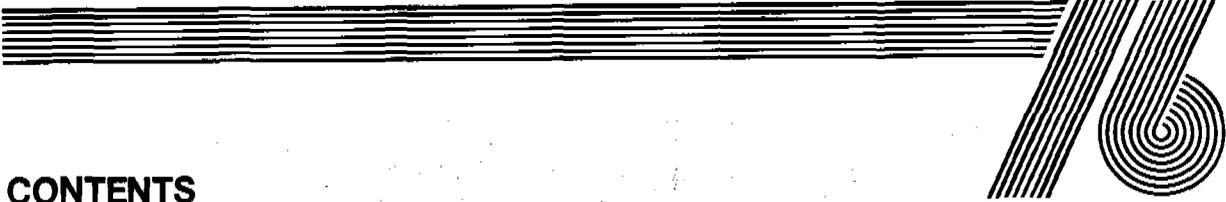
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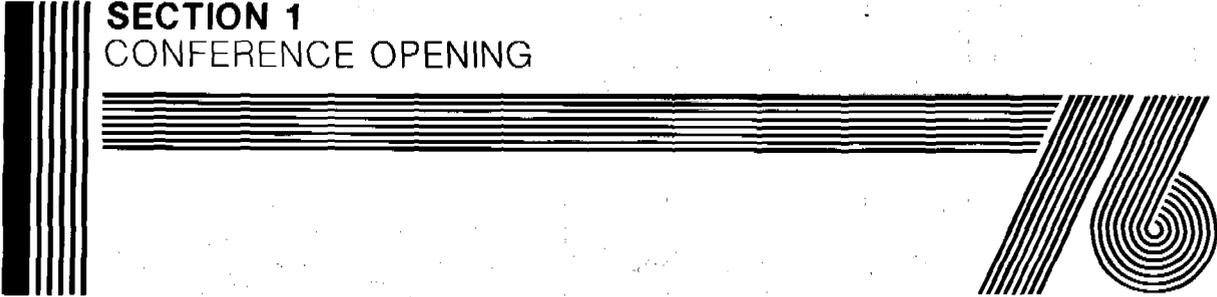
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SECTION 1 CONFERENCE OPENING

Introduction of the Secretary

HOWARD DUGOFF

Associate Administrator for Research
and Development
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and
Chairman of the Conference

Ladies and gentlemen, may I, on behalf of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, welcome you all to Washington, D.C.

We hope that your stay will be a most pleasant one.

I will perform as your Chairman for this Sixth International Technical Conference on Experimental Safety Vehicles, and as my first official function, I have the great pleasure and indeed the honor of introducing our keynote speaker to officially open the conference.

May I present the Honorable William T. Coleman, Jr., the United States Secretary of Transportation. Secretary Coleman—

Keynote Address

SECRETARY WILLIAM T. COLEMAN, JR.

Department of Transportation
United States

I am pleased to keynote this Sixth International Conference, on Experimental Safety Vehicles. It is a particular pleasure for me to welcome our guests from the nine nations that, along with the United States, are participating in this joint effort to produce motor vehicles designed for the maximum safety of their passengers.

It is appropriate that we begin this 4-day conference in the auditorium of our State Department. We think of a nation's foreign policy as being concerned almost exclusively with national security and threats to world peace, and these proved, indeed, to be the prevailing issues of last Wednesday's television debate.

But as I heard Secretary Kissinger point out, when I had occasion to be on a program with him in Philadelphia recently, two of the permanent goals of American foreign policy are the strengthening of relations with our international friends, and the attainment of a

safer, more progressive world. Certainly the alliance of nations represented here and the purposes of this conference serve those objectives.

The automobile is the preferred means of personal transportation in all the industrialized nations of the world, unsurpassed for comfort, convenience, and all-round utility. For many years we have paid a heavy price—unnecessarily high, we are finding—for the privilege of enjoying the motor vehicle's advantages. While we have waged economic, scientific, technological, and legislative war against other forces that damage our environment or endanger our lives, we have treated the car with tolerance and equanimity—fearful that efforts to correct its faults might cost us some of its benefits.

That time is past. This confederation of concerned nations was founded 6 years ago in common dedication to the principle that a safer car can be a better car, and in the growing universal acceptance of passenger safety as not only a valid but a basic criterion of automotive design.