

dangerous articles, and the daylight saving time and standard time zones functions of the *Interstate Commerce Commission*, and

- The Secretary of the Army, under laws relating to water vessel anchorages, draw-bridge operations, rates on toll bridges, locations and clearances of bridges over navigable waters, and offshore marine oil pollution. The act also transferred to the Secretary of Transportation the functions vested in the Secretary of Interior for the administration of The Alaska Railroad, and provided for the direction and supervision of the St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation.

Some of the operating agencies within this department are now described.

National Transportation Safety Board, 1825 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, D C 20590, is authorized (a) to make recommendations for preventing aircraft, rail, highway, marine, and pipeline accidents and to promote transportation safety, (b) to initiate and conduct accident investigations, (c) to request initiation of a specific accident investigation, (d) to request notification of transportation accidents and reports of such accidents, (e) to make sure that accident reports adequately state the circumstances of the accident so that a probable cause can be determined, (f) to recommend rules, regulations, and procedures for conducting investigations, and (g) conducting special studies on matters pertaining to transportation safety and accident prevention. All reports, orders, decisions, rules and regulations, recommendations, special studies, and requests for action are to be made public. *Safety Enforcement, Opinions, and Orders* can be subscribed to.

United States Coast Guard, 1300 E St NW, Washington, D C 20591, was established in 1915 as a consolidation of a number of older services. It is a military service within the Department of Transportation, except when operating as part of the Navy in time of war or when the President directs.

In addition to search and rescue services, enforcement of federal laws, and military preparedness, the Coast Guard develops and administers a merchant marine safety program and provides navigational aids to marine commerce. It also conducts an oceanography

program, carries out a port security program (including explosive and dangerous cargoes, and fire prevention), maintains ocean stations, provides icebreaking services, and trains officers and enlisted Reservists.

The merchant marine safety program has these primary functions: (a) inspection and regulation of vessels and related equipment to provide for the physical protection of the crew, passengers, and cargo, (b) licensing and regulation of merchant marine personnel and protection of their rights, (c) approval of plans for construction, alteration, and repair of vessels, (d) approval of vessel equipment and appliances, (e) investigation and review of marine casualties and acts of incompetency or misconduct, and (f) liaison with the maritime industry and international bodies. Other Coast Guard functions related to merchant marine safety are checking the measurements and documenting vessels, and publishing vessel registers.

Federal Highway Administration, Sixth and D Sts SW, Washington, D C 20591, carries out programs with respect to federal and federal-aid highway construction, administration, and research, highway safety under provisions of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act and the Highway Safety Act, including those under Chapter 4, Title 23, United States Code, and motor carrier safety functions under provisions of the Interstate Commerce Act that were transferred to the Department of Transportation.

Establishment of this administration in 1967 marked a broadening of federal interest in highway transportation. Although highway construction and highway and vehicle safety are the two major program elements, this administration seeks to coordinate highways with other modes of transportation to achieve the most effective balance of transportation systems and facilities.

- Through the Federal Highway Administration's Bureau of Public Roads, which administers the Federal-Aid Highway Program, special emphasis is placed on improving the safety design of new highways, correcting high-hazard locations on existing roads, and improving the capacity and efficiency of highway and urban transportation. The bureau maintains a central register of motor vehicle operators' permits or licenses revoked.