Goldschmidt foresees roadblocks over unfavorable trade restrictions

By TIM RICHARD

NEW YORK — Transportation sec-retary Neil Goldschmidt says Presi-dent Carter cannot restrict Japanese auto imports without fear of foreign re-taliation or a lawsuit.

"I kid you not. What you're proposing
— if you are for import restraint —
you are going to put auto workers back
to work and unemploy machinists and

"That's no deal. That's no favor to anyone in the country," Goldschmidt said, responding to criticism from UAW delegates from Michigan attend-ing the Democratic National Conven-tion.

The nation's sixth transportation sec-retary said United Auto Workers and Ford Motor Co. are asking the Interna-tional Trade Commission for accelertional Trade Commission for acceler-ated hearings on the plight of the American auto industry, which has lost a quarter of its market to Japanese and other foreign producers.

"Under the International Trade Agreement we signed, we have provid-ed for an International Trade Commis-sion, a piece of machinery which has the right to make fact-finding judg-ments as to whether harm is being done to American industry by imports.

"If they make a finding of harm, they subsequently also make a recommen-dation as to remedy.

"But the president does not have to follow the recommendation as to remedy. From the moment in time the finding of harm occurs, the president is then free in his authority under law." Goldschmidt said Carter could then act unlaterally to curb the imports or negotiate with the Japanese for reduced imports.

"What has been missed in all of this from the beginning is there is nothing to prevent another country from going outside the International Trade Agree-ments . . . and to say to us, 'We don't want Boeing, Lockheed, and McDonnell

Douglas aircraft sold in our country for the next 24 months.'

"Well, 60 percent or more of our air-craft sales are to foreign countries. It is the single largest manufactured ex-port of the country." Goldschmidt was asked if Carter could simply ask the Japanese to re-strain imports voluntarily.

"Look, when you tell somebody to do something, it init voluntary.
"The debate in our administration goes this way; does the president have the authority unilaterally to ask for voluntary restraints or to say to the Japanese, Please reastrain?"
"Answer: split.

"Half the people believe it is a viola-tion of the Sherman Antitrust Act for any official of the U.S. to seek restraint of trade by anyone, domestic or for-

"Half believe — I happen to be on this half — the president of the U.S. is unlike any other federal employee and constitutionally can do whatever is

"It's not a very attractive option for us to say to the president, 'We're not sure,' because he will be sued by im-port dealers or citizens or someone.

"So we have taken a different tack. We have tried to find within the statutes on trade the best machinery we can to have this issue addressed."

Goldschmidt estimated it would be near the end of November before the International Trade Commision will re-port its findings.

Coldschmidt has been in the Carter cabinet one year. He had been mayor of Portland, Ore., since 1972 and in 1976 represented the U.S. on the United Nations Economies Commission for Europe. Goldschmidt was also cochairman of the National League of Cities energy task force.

He gained fame for halting freeway projects in Portland and going into a public transit program.



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--- Neil Goldschmidt. Transportation secretary

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Front page story

NEW YORK — High school student Joe Sipher started politicking at the

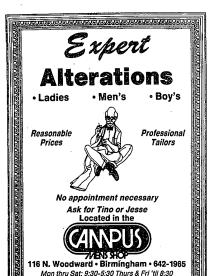


JOE SIPHER

The Cranbrook student from Parmington Hills is a page at the Democratic National Convention.
"It's my first political activity," the 16-year-old said. "Both of my parents are involved, although they are not delegates this year. My sister, Lynn, was a page in 1972.

His father, Allen Sipher, was a delegate to the 1974 mid-term convention in Kansas City. His mother, Ann, is active in Farmington Hills politics.
The page's job is unglamorous. "Pue been moving boxes. I passed out envelopes and I've been watching the media. I enjoyed meeting celebrities." Asked which celebrities, Sipher cited Doris Biscoe and Joe Glover, television personalities, and state Sen. Doug Ross of Oak Park. "Secretary of State Richard Austin sat next to me on the bus."
Will he get enough material for a school report?
"I'm keeping a diary. I think I'll write my conclusions when I Inish that a constant of the content of the state of the content of the state of the content of the cont





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