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**Ordinance No. 106148**

AN ORDINANCE designating as a Landmark the 20th Avenue Northeast Bridge and its site, the portion of 20th Avenue Northeast within Ravenna Park, Seattle, and specifying the particular features to be preserved in accordance with the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance (102229).

*1/5 - Pass*

COMPTROLLER  
FILE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

**Council Bill No. 98045**

INTRODUCED: DEC 27 1976	BY EXECUTIVE REQUEST
REFERRED: DEC 27 1976	TO: PLANNING & URBAN DEV.
REFERRED:	
REFERRED:	
REPORTED: JAN 10 1977	SECOND READING: JAN 10 1977
THIRD READING: JAN 10 1977	SIGNED: JAN 10 1977
PRESENTED TO MAYOR: JAN 11 1977	APPROVED: JAN 17 1977
VETO TO CITY CLERK: JAN 17 1977	PUBLISHED:
VETOED BY MAYOR:	VETO PUBLISHED:
PASSED OVER VETO:	VETO SUSTAINED:

ORDINANCE 106143

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2  
3 AN ORDINANCE designating as a Landmark the 20th Avenue  
4 Northeast Bridge and its site, the portion of 20th  
5 Avenue Northeast within Ravenna Park, Seattle, and  
6 specifying the particular features to be preserved in  
7 accordance with the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance  
8 (102229).

9 WHEREAS, Ordinance 102229 created the Landmarks Preservation  
10 Board and established a procedure for the designation  
11 and preservation of structures and areas having historical,  
12 cultural, architectural, engineering or geographical  
13 importance; and

14 WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance 102229 and due notice, the  
15 Landmarks Preservation Board after a public hearing on  
16 October 20, 1976 considered (a) the evidence and testimony  
17 presented at such hearing, including the Seattle Historic  
18 Building Data Sheet attached hereto, and (b) the conformance  
19 or lack of conformance of the proposed designation with  
20 the Comprehensive Plan of Seattle and with the purposes  
21 and standards of Ordinance 102229, and based upon such  
22 evidence and consideration determined that the 20th  
23 Avenue Northeast Bridge and its site, the portion of  
24 20th Avenue Northeast within Ravenna Park, Seattle,  
25 satisfies each of the following criteria required under  
26 Ordinance 102229 for designation of a Landmark:

27 Section 6. "(5) embodies those distinguishing characteristics  
28 of an architectural-type or engineering specimen;"

Section 6. "(6) is the work of a designer whose individual  
work has significantly influenced the development of  
Seattle;"

Section 6. "(7) contains elements of design, detail,  
materials or craftsmanship which represent a significant  
innovation;"

Section 6. "(8) by being part of or related to a  
square, park or other distinctive area, should be  
developed or preserved according to a plan based on a  
historic, cultural or architectural motif;" and

Section 6. "(9) owing to its unique location or singular  
physical characteristic, represents an established and  
familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, community  
or city;"

and recommended to the City Council that the 20th  
Avenue Northeast Bridge and its site be designated as a  
Landmark and that certain features thereof should be  
preserved; and

WHEREAS, the Planning and Urban Development Committee of the  
City Council considered the report and recommendation  
of the Landmarks Preservation Board at a public hearing  
held pursuant to due notice, and reported to the City

1 Council in favor of such recommendation; Now, Therefore,  
2 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

3 Section 1. That the attached report and recommendations  
4 of the Landmarks Preservation Board are hereby approved and  
5 the 20th Avenue Northeast Bridge and its site, the portion  
6 of 20th Avenue Northeast within Ravenna Park, Seattle, are  
7 hereby designated a Landmark having a special character or  
8 special historical, cultural, architectural, engineering or  
9 geographic interest or value, based upon characteristics  
10 specified in the attached report of the Landmark Preservation  
11 Board, and the Secretary of the Landmark Preservation Board  
12 is hereby directed to send to the owner of record of the  
13 property designated, by registered or certified mail, and to  
14 the Superintendent of Buildings, a copy of this ordinance  
15 and a letter outlining the basis for such designation and  
16 the obligations and restrictions which result from such  
17 designation within ten days after approval by the Mayor.

18 Section 2. That the following particular features of  
19 the Landmark designated in Section 1 above shall be preserved:

- 20 a) the structure, grading, paving and major landscaping  
21 of the site.  
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(To be used for all Ordinances except Emergency.)

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty days from and after its passage and approval, if approved by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect at the time it shall become a law under the provisions of the city charter.

Passed by the City Council the 10 day of January, 1977, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this 10 day of January, 1977.

President of the City Council.

Approved by me this 17 day of January, 1977.

Mayor.

Filed by me this 17 day of January, 1977.

Attest: E. L. King  
City Comptroller and City Clerk.

(SEAL)

Published

By J. Angewine  
Deputy Clerk.

City of Seattle  
LANDMARKS PRESERVATION BOARD  
Suite 919 - Arctic Building  
Seattle, Washington 98104  
Telephone: 625-4501

LPB-154d/76

RE: C.F. \_\_\_\_\_

Designation of:

20th AVENUE N.E. BRIDGE & ITS SITE  
as Landmark pursuant to Ordinance 102229

Honorable Paul Kraabel, Chairman  
Planning and Urban Development Committee  
City of Seattle

Dear Sir:

The Landmarks Preservation Board hereby transmits the following for your consideration and recommendation to the City Council:

The Landmarks Preservation Board, after a public hearing held on October 20, 1976 pursuant to due notice, at which time said Board duly considered (a) the evidence and testimony presented at such hearing, including the Seattle Historical Building Data Sheet in C.F. \_\_\_\_\_, and (b) the conformance or lack of conformance of the proposed designation with the Comprehensive Plan of Seattle and with the purposes and standards of Ordinance 102229 and based upon such evidence and consideration determined that the (subject to be designated) 20th Avenue N.E. Bridge and its site

bridge and easement of 20th Avenue N.E. thru Ravenna Park.  
situated upon (legal description of site)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
at (street address or other commonly used description of location of landmark) Ravenna Park

satisfies each of the following criteria required under Ordinance 102229 for designation as a Landmark:

~~Section 6(1) has significant character, interest or value, as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the City, State or Nation; or is associated with the life of a person significant in the past;~~

~~Section 6(2) is the site of an historic event with a significant effect upon society;~~

~~Section 6(3) exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, social or historic heritage of the community;~~

~~Section 6(4) portrays the environment in an era of history characterised by a distinctive architectural style;~~

Section 6(5) embodies those distinguishing characteristics of an architectural-type or engineering specimen;

Section 6(6) is the work of a designer whose individual work has significantly influenced the development of Seattle;

Section 6(7) contains elements of design, detail, materials or craftsmanship which represent a significant innovation;

Section 6(8) by being part of or related to a square, park or other distinctive area, should be developed or preserved according to a plan based on a historic, cultural or architectural motif;

Section 6(9) owing to its unique location or singular physical characteristic, represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, community or city;

and recommends to the City Council that the foregoing 20th Avenue

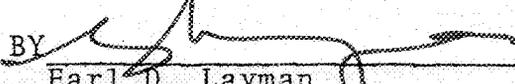
N.E. Bridge and its site be designated as a Landmark and

that the following features thereof should be preserved by the following controls:

"That with respect to the above described landmark, no person shall do or cause to be done, any of the following except pursuant to a Certificate of Approval duly issued by the Landmark Preservation Board (See Section 8 of Ordinance 102229):

- a. demolition of the structure or portions of the structure;
- b. any alterations or repairs to the structure or portions of the structure;
- c. any changes to the site such as construction permits, grading, paving and major landscape changes.

LANDMARKS PRESERVATION BOARD

BY 

Earl D. Layman

City Historic Preservation Officer

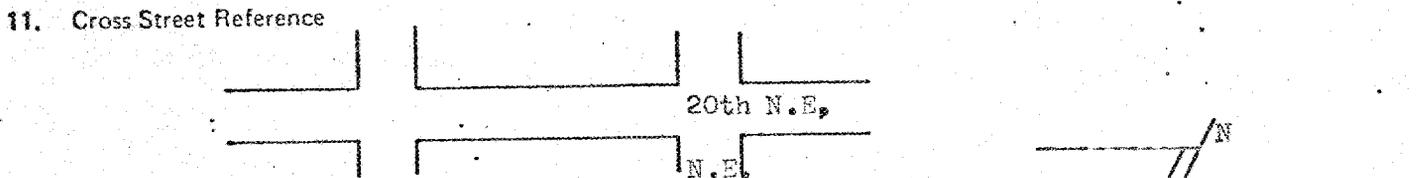
SEATTLE HISTORIC BUILDING DATA SHEET

1. Name (common or present and/or historic) RAVENNA PARK BRIDGE (20th N. E. Bridge)  
 2. Street and Number 20th N. E. at N. E. 62nd Block \_\_\_ Lot \_\_\_ Year Built 1913-14  
 3. Present Owner City of Seattle Present Use pedestrian/bicycle bridge  
 4. Interim Owner(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Interim Use(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. Original Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Original Use auto/pedestrian bridge  
 6. Architect (designer) Frank Melvin Johnson Builder City Engineering Dept.  
 7. Assessed Value: Building \_\_\_\_\_ Land \_\_\_\_\_ Assessors File No. \_\_\_\_\_

8. Classification:  
 Building  Public  Occupied  Open to Public:  
 Site  Private  Unoccupied  Yes  
 Structure  Both  Preservation work  No  
 Object in progress Hours \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other  Threatened by demolition  
 Unknown

9. Neighborhood Information:  
 A. Compatibility With Neighborhood Structure Yes  No \_\_\_\_\_  
 Use Yes  No \_\_\_\_\_  
 B. Importance to Neighborhood Great   
 Moderate \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minor \_\_\_\_\_  
 C. Architecturally Strong Neighborhood  
 Comments Neighborhood fought to save it as a pedestrian bridge, rather than have it obliterated by expansion, or removed entirely.

10. Special Research Sources (Be Specific, list name or item and where found)  
Johnson, Frank Melvin, The Ravenna Park Steel Arch Bridge. University of Washington, Thesis, 1916. #399.  
Seattle Post-Intelligencer, "Ravenna Bridge Will Open Well Settled Section", November 2, 1913, part 4, page 10. (Xerox copy attached)  
Seattle, City of, Engineering Department blueprints, 1912.  
Seattle, City of, Photo Lab, photographs, 1913 and 1914.



12. Photos Attached & Photographer Seattle Engineering Dept.  
 13. Physical Description: (second sheet attached)  
 14. Significance: (Third sheet attached)

13. Physical Description

A. Style of Architecture

Three pin arch,  
steel arch bridge, deck type arch

B. Construction Material

steel bridge, concrete

C. No. of Stories

D. Condition

Excellent \_\_\_\_\_  
Good   x   \_\_\_\_\_  
Fair \_\_\_\_\_  
Poor \_\_\_\_\_

E. Exterior Description of Original Design

lamp posts removed  
none or little  
Moderate amount  
considerable

F. Architectural worth as Example of Its Style

Exceptional   x   \_\_\_\_\_  
Excellent \_\_\_\_\_  
Good \_\_\_\_\_  
Fair \_\_\_\_\_  
Poor \_\_\_\_\_

G. Notable Features: (Be specific, i.e., detailing, craftsmanship, proportions, materials, colors, interior, etc. Refer to Guidelines of Landmarks Preservation Board).  
NUMBERS RELATE TO CRITERIA NUMBERS

(5) The Ravenna Bridge is an excellent example of a three pin arch steel arch bridge. Its design was chosen for pleasing appearance, economy of construction, and flexibility of the structure under stress. The arch bridge is one of the five major types of bridges: Beam, cantilever, suspension, arch, and pontoon. The Ravenna bridge is a deck type arched bridge, since the carriageway is completely above the arch. The three pins, at the lower ends of the arch and at the center top of the arch, allow the bridge members to move slightly with the stress of live loads on the structure. The bridge has the pleasing arrangement of an odd number of spans, bridge deck cantilevered over the trusses, and approach girders of an open web type with straight bottom cords in contrast to the design of the large span. The lattice braced central arch, slightly more expensive than a spandrel braced arch, reveals the basic arch more directly and its primary purpose. The bridge handrail, although very simple, was specially designed for the structure. It is composed of upper and lower members of angle iron, with cross and vertical braces of strap steel. The hand rail is steel pipe. (the present auto guard is simply bolted to the rail, and should be removed). Light fixtures were chosen for their pleasing appearance, being according to the specifications 80 watt and on standard CI posts. (These are now missing).

(7) The approach concrete railings, of "artistic design", were innovative in construction for that time in history. The railing was precast, in sections of eight triangular openings. The panels were set in place and then the base and cap poured.

(7) The side elevation of the bridge shows an extra touch given by a fascia of steel plates with arches on the lower edge, forming a cover for the stringer ends of the deck slab. This was "inexpensive and beautifying".

The Ravenna Bridge is 354' long and has a roadway of 17'-6" width. The total deck width is 23', the sidewalk 5'. The arch is 250' with a rise of 41 1/2'.

The bridge was financed by the County, City, and an expanded L.I.D. Total cost was reported to be \$55,000, with a total weight of steel of 300 tons. The cost of the steel in place was \$32,000, with the remaining costs being shared by masonry, excavation, and paving.

## 14. Significance

## A. Major Significance

- Historical  
 Architectural  
 Engineering  
 Cultural  
 Geographic  
 Archaeological

## B. Level of Significance

- National  
 State  
 Community

## C. Statement of Significance (Be specific, history, personages, events, etc.)

(8), (9) Plans for a span across the deep ravine of Ravenna Park developed as that part of the city grew in density of residences. The area was without public transportation, and the residents had to walk almost a mile around in order to cross from one side of the chasm to the other. The park had been acquired by condemnation in 1911, and in May of 1913, the Board of Park Commissioners approved the design for a major bridge at 20th N. E. The design by Frank Melvin Johnson called for two truss spans as approaches with a truss arch over the ravine. The design took into consideration the fine vegetation of the park, and the footpaths which were part way up the sides of the ravine. Yet it accommodated the growing demand for auto passage, with a well cambered deck of 2" of asphalt overlaying a 6" concrete slab. Even the color of the paint was thought out: buff to contrast with the spring green, blend with the summer and autumn buff, contrast with the winter gray and black, and continually contrast with the surrounding tall evergreens.

Johnson's work was executed under City Engineer A. H. Dimock, with J. A. Dunford the superintendant of construction. Steel was fabricated by the American Bridge Company out of their Ambridge Plant, and they asked additional compensation because the shop drawings "were the most difficult that they had had in six years". Contractor was J. R. Wood and Co., Seattle.

The use of the three hinged arch was decided upon by the designer since the shewbacks were not going into solid rock, but into dry sandy clay soil. The rise of the bridge was only  $41\frac{1}{2}'$  but the ribs of the arch were designed to  $41'10"$ . The camber, desirable in a highway bridge floor, was achieved by raising the deck above the stringers.

The north approach has two 55' open web girders. The south approach has two 48' open web girders. The girders are riveted to the columns over the skewback hinges, but are free to slide at their outer ends.

Heavy timber falsework was used as the method of erection. The arch ring was made in 28 sections for easier transport and erection. The approach girders were shop riveted and swung into place. The cableway used in pouring the shewbacks was again used with block and tackle to move and swing and position the arch pieces.

Surveyor Signature

*Margaret A. Conley*

Date 10/8/76

REVIEWED:

*[Signature]*

Date

Designer Johnson said "the ratio of rise to span selected was such that the parabola very nearly coincided with the segmental curve; so that by selecting the segmented form, the most pleasing, most simple and most economic design was obtained." Area residents agreed, and fought the city's plan to alter or demolish the bridge. By ordinance of 1975, the bridge was designated for use of pedestrians and bikes only.



CITY OF SEATTLE  
LANDMARKS PRESERVATION BOARD  
Suite 919 Arctic Building  
Seattle, Washington 98104  
Telephone: 625-4501

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS ON CRITERIA AND  
CONTROLS

RE: C.F. 2837\_\_\_\_\_

Designation of

20th Avenue N.E. Bridge  
as Landmark pursuant to Ordinance 102229

Honorable Paul Kraabel, Chairman  
Planning and Urban Development Committee  
City of Seattle

Dear Sir:

The Landmarks Preservation Board hereby transmits the following for your consideration and recommendation to the City Council:

The Landmark Preservation Board, after a public hearing held on October 20, 1976 pursuant to due notice, at which time said Board duly considered (a) the evidence and testimony presented at such hearing, including the Seattle Historical Building Data Sheet in C.F. \_\_\_\_\_, and (b) the conformance or lack of conformance of the proposed designation with the Comprehensive Plan of Seattle and with the purposes and standards of Ordinance 102229 and based upon such evidence and consideration determined that the (subject to be designated) 20th Avenue N.E. Bridge

\_\_\_\_\_ situated upon (legal description of site) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ at (street address or other commonly used description of location of landmark) Ravenna Park

\_\_\_\_\_ satisfies each of the following criteria required under Ordinance 102229 for designation as a Landmark:

Section 6 (1) has significant character, interest or value, as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the City, State of Nation; or is associated with the life of a person significant in the past;

Section 6 (2) is the site of an historic event with a significant effect upon society;

Section 6 (3) exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, social or historic heritage of the community;

Section 6 (4) portrays the environment in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style;

Section 6 (5) embodies those distinguishing characteristics of an architectural-type or engineering specimen;

Section 6 (6) is the work of a designer whose individual work has significantly influenced the development of Seattle;

Section 6 (7) contains elements of design, detail, materials or craftsmanship which represent a significant innovation;

Section 6 (8) by being part of or related to a square, park or other distinctive area, should be developed or preserved according to a plan based on a historic, cultural or architectural motif;

Section 6 (9) owing to its unique location or singular physical characteristic, represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, community or city;

and recommends to the City Council that the foregoing 20th Avenue N.E. Bridge be designated as a Landmark and that the following features thereof should be preserved by the following controls:

"That with respect to the above described landmark, no person shall do or cause to be done, any of the following except pursuant to a Certificate of Approval duly issued by the Landmark Preservation Board (See Section 8 of Ordinance 102229):

- a. demolition of the structure or portions of the structure;
- b. any alterations or repairs to the structure or portions of the structure.

LANDMARKS PRESERVATION BOARD

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Earl D. Layman

Historic Preservation Officer

# The City of Seattle--Legislative Department

MR. PRESIDENT:

Date Reported  
and Adopted

Your Committee on **PLANNING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

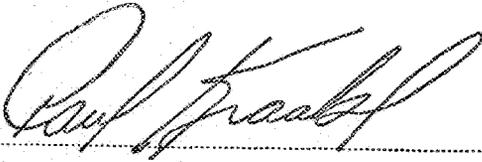
JAN 10 1977

to which was referred

C.B. 98045

Designating as a Landmark the 20th Avenue Northeast Bridge and its site, the portion of 20th Avenue Northeast within Ravenna Park, Seattle, and specifying the particular features to be preserved in accordance with the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance (102229).

RECOMMEND THAT THE SAME DO PASS



P&UD  
Chairman

Chairman

Committee

Committee

# Affidavit of Publication

## STATE OF WASHINGTON KING COUNTY—SS.

The undersigned, on oath states that he is an authorized representative of The Daily Journal of Commerce, a daily newspaper, which newspaper is a legal newspaper of general circulation and it is now and has been for more than six months prior to the date of publication hereinafter referred to, published in the English language continuously as a daily newspaper in Seattle, King County, Washington, and it is now and during all of said time was printed in an office maintained at the aforesaid place of publication of this newspaper. The Daily Journal of Commerce was on the 12th day of June, 1941, approved as a legal newspaper by the Superior Court of King County.

The notice in the exact form annexed, was published in regular issues of The Daily Journal of Commerce, which was regularly distributed to its subscribers during the below stated period. The annexed notice, a .....

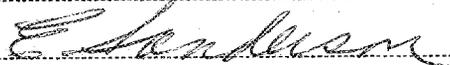
ORDINANCE NO 106143

was published on Jan 18, 1977



Subscribed and sworn to before me on

Jan 18, 1977



Notary Public for the State of Washington,  
residing in Seattle.

**ORDINANCE 102143**

AN ORDINANCE designating as a Landmark the 28th Avenue Northeast Bridge and its site, the portion of 28th Avenue Northeast within Ravenna Park, Seattle, and specifying the particular features to be preserved in accordance with the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance (192229).

WHEREAS, Ordinance 102229 created the Landmarks Preservation Board and established a procedure for the designation and preservation of structures and areas having historical, cultural, architectural, engineering or geographical importance, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance 102229 and due notice, the Landmarks Preservation Board after a public hearing on October 20, 1977 considered (a) the evidence and testimony presented at such hearing, including the Seattle Historic Building Data Sheet attached hereto, and (b) the conformance or lack of conformance of the proposed designation with the Comprehensive Plan of Seattle and with the purposes and standards of Ordinance 102229, and based upon such evidence and consideration determined that the 28th Avenue Northeast Bridge and its site, the portion of 28th Avenue Northeast within Ravenna Park, Seattle, satisfies each of the following criteria required under Ordinance 102229 for designation of a Landmark:

Section 4. "(4) embodies those distinguishing characteristics of an architectural-type or engineering specimen."

Section 5. "(5) is the work of a designer whose individual work has significantly influenced the development of Seattle."

Section 6. "(6) contains elements of design, detail, materials or craftsmanship which represent a significant innovation."

Section 7. "(7) by being part of or related to a square, park or other distinctive area, should be developed or preserved according to a plan based on a historic, cultural or architectural motif," and

Section 8. "(8) owing to its unique location or singular physical characteristic, represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, community or city."

and recommended to the City Council that the 28th Avenue Northeast Bridge and its site be designated as a Landmark and that certain features thereof should be preserved, and

WHEREAS, the Planning and Urban Development Committee of the City Council considered the report and recommendation of the Landmarks Preservation Board at a public hearing held pursuant to due notice, and reported to the City Council in favor of such recommendation; Now, therefore,

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. That the attached report and recommendations of the Landmarks Preservation Board are hereby approved and the 28th Avenue Northeast Bridge and its site, the portion of 28th Avenue Northeast within Ravenna Park, Seattle, are hereby designated a Landmark having a special character or special historical, cultural, architectural, engineering or geographic interest or value, based upon characteristics specified in the attached report of the Landmarks Preservation Board, and the Secretary of the Landmark Preservation Board is hereby directed to send to the owner of record of the property designated by registered or certified mail, and to the Superintendent of Buildings, a copy of this ordinance and a letter outlining the basis for such designation and the obligations and restrictions which result from such designation within ten days after approval by the Mayor.

Section 2. That the following particular features of the Landmark designated in Section 1 above shall be preserved:

a) the structure, grading, paving and major landscaping of the site.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty days from and after its passage and approval, if approved by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect at the time it shall become a law under the provisions of the city charter.

Passed by the City Council the 16th day of January, 1977, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this 16th day of January, 1977.

SAM SMITH,  
President of the City Council.

Approved by me this 17th day of January, 1977.

WES UHLMAN,  
Mayor.

Filed by me this 17th day of January, 1977.

Attest: E. L. KIDD,  
City Comptroller and  
City Clerk.

(Seal) by W. ANGEVINE,  
Deputy Clerk.

Publication ordered by E. L. KIDD, Comptroller and City Clerk.

Date of Official Publication in the Daily Journal of Commerce, Seattle, January 18, 1977.

(C-791)