

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Kate P. Donovan (Kate P. Donovan@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:21-OCT-1997 20:48:00.00

SUBJECT: OMB Legislative Report - October 21, 1997

TO: Ann F. Walker (Ann F. Walker@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: James A. Brown (James A. Brown@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:
Message Creation Date was at 21-OCT-1997 20:48:00

TO: DIRECTOR FRANK RAINES

DEPUTY DIRECTOR JACK LEW

ACTING DEP. DIRECTOR FOR MANAGEMENT

ED DESEVE

EXECUTIVE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR JOSH GOTBAUM

FROM: OMB LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

DATE: OCTOBER 21, 1997

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Chairman Livingston introduced a clean, short-term 2nd Continuing
Resolution

which would extend the 1st CR through November 7th.

CONGRESS TODAY (10/21)

SENATE

Continued consideration of S. 1173 - Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1997 (Cloture petition filed on the modified Committee amendment - vote to occur on Thursday)

[SAP sent, 10/8 -- support Senate passage, but stating a number of Administration concerns, including making the bill fully consistent with the

Bipartisan Budget Agreement; Letter regarding the DBE provision is pending]

HOUSE

Suspended the rules and passed the following bills by voice vote:

- o H.R. 2535 - Emergency Student Loan Consolidation Act of 1997

[SAP sent 10/21: Administration opposes; Riley letter to Senate Labor Committee pending]

- o H.Con.Res. 151 - Sense of Congress Regarding Management of Forests to Reduce Greenhouse Gases

[No SAP]

- o H.R. 1787 - Asian Elephant Conservation Act of 1997

[No SAP: Support informally]

- o H.R. 708 - Grazing at Grand Teton National Park

[No SAP: Support informally]

- o Concur in Senate Amendment to H. Con. Res. 8 - Sense of Congress with

respect

to the significance of maintaining the health & stability of coral reef
ecosystems

[No SAP]

o H.R. 1779 - To Make Minor Adjustment in the Devils Backbone Wilderness
in the
Mark Twin National Forest

[No SAP: Support informally; Boundary adjustment]

o H.R. 1789 - To Reauthorize the Dairy Indemnity Program

[No SAP: Support informally; reauthorizes existing program]

o H.R. 2366 - Census of Agriculture Act of 1997

[No SAP: Support informally]

o H.R. 2610 - National Narcotics Leadership Act Amendments of 1997

[SAP sent 10/21: Administration opposes]

o H.R. 681 - Designating the Carlos J. Moorhead U.S. Post Office Building

[No SAP]

o H.R. 282 - Designating the Oscar Garcia Rivera Post Office Building

[No SAP]

o H.R. 2013 - Designating the David B. Champagne Post Office Building

[No SAP]

o H.R. 2129 - Designating the Douglas Applegate Post Office

[No SAP]

o H.R. 2564 - Designating the Peter J. McCloskey Postal Facility

[No SAP]

Suspended the rules and took the following action:

o Passed (420-0) H.R. 2464 - To Amend the Immigration and Nationality Act

to

Exempt Internationally Adopted Children Under Age 10 from the Immunization Requirement

[SAP sent 10/21: Administration supports, but does not think the bill goes far enough]

o Passed (413-3) H.R. 1962 - Presidential and Executive Office Financial Accountability Act of 1997

[SAP sent 10/21: No objection]

Began consideration of H.R. 2204, Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1997

(final

vote expected tomorrow)

[SAP sent 10/21: Administration supports House passage, but will continue to seek technical amendments]

CONGRESS TOMORROW (10/22)

SENATE

Convene at 12:00 noon for morning business and 12:30pm for legislative business.

Continue consideration of S. 1173 - Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1997 (cloture vote expected Thursday)

[SAP sent, 10/8 -- support Senate passage, but stating a number of Administration concerns, including making the bill fully consistent with

the

Bipartisan Budget Agreement; Letter regarding the DBE provision is pending]

Consider continuing resolution, when it arrives from the House (The current CR expires on October 23, 1997).

HOUSE

Meet at 10:00 a.m. for legislative business.

Consider H.J.Res. 97, Making Continuing Appropriations for FY 1998 (The current CR expires on October 23, 1997)

Complete action on H.R. 2204, Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1997
[SAP sent 10/21: Administration supports House passage, but will continue to seek technical amendments]

Consider H.R. 2247 - Amtrak Reform and Privatization Act of 1997 (Subject to a Rule)
[SAP sent 10/21: Administration strongly opposes]

If possible, begin consideration of H.R. 1534 - Private Property Rights Implementation Act of 1997

[SAP sent 10/21: Attorney General, Interior Secretary, EPA Administrator,
& CEQ
Chair recommend veto]

CONGRESS THIS WEEK

SENATE

Thursday, October 23rd and Friday, October 24th

Continue consideration of S. 1173 - Intermodal Surface Transportation

Efficiency Act of 1997 (cloture vote expected Thursday)

[SAP sent, 10/8 -- support Senate passage, but stating a number of
Administration concerns, including making the bill fully consistent with
the

Bipartisan Budget Agreement; Letter regarding the DBE provision is
pending]

Possible - continue consideration of S. 1156 - District of Columbia FY
1998

Appropriations

[SAP sent, 9/18: Senior Advisers recommend veto if the bill contains the
school
voucher amendment.]

Consider remaining appropriations conference reports, as available
(Interior
possible Friday).

HOUSE

Thursday, October 23rd

Meet at 10:00 a.m. for legislative business.

Continue consideration of H.R. 1534 - Private Property Rights

Implementation

Act of 1997

[SAP sent 10/21: Attorney General, Interior Secretary, EPA Administrator,
& CEQ

Chair recommend veto]

Consider H.R. 2646 - Education Savings Act for Public and Private Schools

(Subject to a Rule)

[Rules SAP sent 10/21: Secretaries of Education & Treasury recommend
veto]

Friday, October 24th

Meet at 9:00 a.m.

Consider H.R. 1775 - Intelligence Authorization Conference Report for

FY98, if

available

Consider Department of Defense Authorization Conference Report for FY98,

if

available

Consider H.R. 2107 - Interior FY 1998 Appropriations Conference Report

(Subject

to a Rule)

[Letter sent 9/30: Senior advisers veto recommendation based on House

failure

to fund NEA and to provide \$700 million in land acquisition funds (BBA

violation); objectionable House/Senate environmental riders.]

Consider the Rule for H.R. 1270 - Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1997

[SAP pending: President would veto the bill]

LONG-TERM SCHEDULE

Likely items for consideration the week of October 27th

SENATE

Continue consideration of S. 1173 - Intermodal Surface Transportation

Efficiency Act of 1997

[SAP sent, 10/8 -- support Senate passage, but stating a number of

Administration concerns, including making the bill fully consistent with

the

Bipartisan Budget Agreement; Letter regarding the DBE provision is

pending]

Fast Track Legislation

Adoption Bill

Amtrak Bill

HOUSE

H.R. 2616 - Charter Schools Amendments Act of 1997

[Rules SAP currently pending]

H.R. 1270 - Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1997

[Rules SAP currently pending]

The following China bills:

- o H.Res. 188 - Urging Action on Iran acquisition of C-802 cruise missile

[No SAP]

- o H.R. 967 - Excluding Certain Chinese Officials From the U.S.

[SAP pending: Administration opposes]

- o H.R. 2232 - Radio Free Asia Act of 1997

[No SAP]

- o H.R. 2358 - Political Freedom in China Act

[SAP pending: Administration opposes]

- o H.R. 2386 - US-Taiwan Anti-Ballistic Missile Defense Cooperation Act

[SAP pending: Administration opposes]

- o H.R. 2570 - Forced Abortion Condemnation Act

[SAP pending: Administration opposes]

- o H.R. 2580 - Monitor People's Liberation Army of China's Commercial Activities in U.S.

[SAP pending: Administration opposes]

- o H.R. 2195 Laogai Slave Labor Products Act of 1997

[No SAP]

BILLS IN CONFERENCE:

- o Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act

- o Foreign Ops approps
- o Labor-HHS-Education approps
- o Interior approps (not filed yet)
- o CJS approps
- o Ex-Im
- o FDA (conference should begin this week)

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Cynthia Coogan (CN=Cynthia Coogan/OU=DOT/O=GOV [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:22-OCT-1997 17:52:57.00

SUBJECT: White House Weekly Report for the week of October 27, 1997

TO: Cabinet Affairs (Cabinet Affairs [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

MEMORANDUM FOR ERSKINE BOWLES, THE WHITE HOUSE October 22, 1997

FROM: Secretary Slater

SUBJECT: DOT Weekly Report -- Week of October 27, 1997

The following is the Department of Transportation Weekly Report:

KEY DEPARTMENT NEWS

.08 BAC Press Briefing: On October 23, Secretary Slater will hold a press conference on Capitol Hill to endorse.08 Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) legislation introduced by Senator Lautenberg and Congresswoman Lowey.

Japanese Port Practices Update: Negotiations are continuing with the Japanese delegation concerning a bilateral maritime agreement.

Amtrak: Secretary Slater has taken an active role in resolving issues

concerning Amtrak. During the week of October 13-17, the Secretary met with the union and management, as well as Amtrak Board Members, including Delaware Governor Thomas Carper, to highlight the importance of Amtrak service and to encourage settlement of contract disputes and Congressional action or a long-delayed Amtrak reauthorization bill. Over the weekend, the Secretary sought and obtained the parties agreement to delay the deadline for settlement of their dispute by a week. House of Representatives is currently debating the Amtrak reauthorization bill. The issues of labor protection and, perhaps, liability to assure that commuter operations are excepted from impacts of any future shutdown, are likely to be contested on the floor.

Contingency Plans for Possible Amtrak Work Stoppage: Commuter Rail Operations have been developing contingency plans in the event of a possible AMTRAK strike, including requiring LIRR (New York) customers to use MTA/New York City Transit's Queens subway lines to reach Manhattan destinations, NJ Transit plans to substitute bus service to those affected areas and increase PATH rapid transit service; SEPTA plans to operate the "Reading" half of their system through to the 30th Street Station, in addition to maintaining substitute bus service, the Maryland MTA would be forced to discontinue service and would use buses (its own and contracted) instead, Virginia Railway Express plans to bus people home if strike occurs midday; Metra Commuter Rail (Chicago) is planning to put its own employees into control switch towers that AMTRAK employees currently operate; Caltrain (California) will not operate because their engineers and conductors will not cross picket lines, Caltrain plans to distribute flyers informing riders of other bus services, including SamTrans and

Muni.

Child Care Conference: On October 23, Secretary Slater will attend the White House Conference on Child Care and participate with HHS Secretary Shalala in a workshop.

Secretary Slater Meeting on St. Louis Airport: On October 24, Secretary Slater will meet with Congressmen Gephardt and Clay to discuss issues concerning the expansion of Lambert field in St. Louis. St. Louis intends to request a \$200 million letter of intent (LOI) to help fund this project including construction of a second runway to reduce delays.

Secretary Slater Meeting on Airbags: On October 24, Secretary Slater is tentatively scheduled to meet with Senators McCain, Kempthorne, and Hollings to discuss issues concerning airbags.

National Safety Expo: On October 27, Secretary Slater will address the 85th National Safety Council Congress and Expo in Chicago, IL.

Highway Work Safety Zone Conference: On October 28, Secretary Slater will address the Highway Work Safety Zone Conference in Washington, DC.

Airline Competition Hearing: On October 28, Secretary Slater will testify on airline competition at a hearing of the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee.

Garrett A. Morgan Education Forum: On October 30, Secretary Slater will

host a Forum at the White House Conference Center to continue dialogue among key transportation leaders in government, industry and academia on the Administrations Garrett A. Morgan (GAM) Transportation and Technology Futures Program. The Forum will feature remarks from Secretary Slater; the Secretary of Education, Richard W. Riley; and tentatively the Secretary of Labor, Alexis M. Herman. Also speaking on the emerging knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to meet the changing requirements occurring in the transportation industry are Philip M. Condit, Chairman and CEO of The Boeing Company, and Michael Starnes, Chairman, US Chamber of Commerce and owner of MS Carriers, a trucking firm.

Climate Change: On October 22, Secretary Slater attended the White House Climate Change event with the President.

Coast Guard Foundation: On October 30, Secretary Slater will address the Coast Guard Foundation Dinner in New York City.

CSX/NS Acquisition of Conrail: On October 21, the Department filed comments in the pending application by CSX and Norfolk Southern railroads to acquire Conrail. In the Department's filing before the Surface Transportation Board, we urged that given the size of the proposed transaction, and the safety-related problems that have come to the attention of the FRA in the context of the recent Union Pacific/Southern Pacific and Burlington Northern/Santa Fe mergers, no approval of the \$10.4 billion Conrail acquisition should take place until the acquiring railroads have committed to a detailed safety integration plan.

MSP Transfers Approved for American President Lines, Ltd. (APL): On October 16 MARAD approved the application of APL to transfer the Maritime Security Program (MSP) Operating Agreement Nos. MA/MSP-1 through MA/MSP-9 to American Ship Management, LLC in connection with the Agreement and Plan of merger dated as of April 13, by and among APL Limited, Neptune Orient Lines Ltd and Neptune U.S.A., Inc. No excessive elements of foreign control were found to exist and the transfer supports the purposes and policies of the Merchant Marine Act, and the Maritime Security Act of 1996.

Safe Communities: On October 14, Secretary Slater announced a NHTSA grant of \$400,000 to Rhode Island Hospital in Providence as part of a three-year cooperative agreement to evaluate the Safe Communities approach to reducing traffic injuries and fatalities.

Rural Intelligent Transportation: On October 15, Secretary Slater announced five awards totaling more than \$2.5 million to use smart transportation technology to improve transportation in rural areas.

Secretary Slater Commends Coast Guard Personnel for Heroism: On October 20, Secretary Slater commended Chief Thomas Henning of CG Group Sault St Marie and the crew of the cutter ACACIA for heroism following a fireworks explosion in Charlevoix, MI on July 23. Chief Henning and ACACIA's crew provided critical first-aid to trauma victims, stabilized the shocked spectators, and assisted authorities with restoring order. For saving the lives of two people, Chief Henning was awarded the Coast Guard Medal by

Vice Admiral Roger Rufe, Commander, CG Atlantic Area.

Fine Air: Following a 10-day FAA inspection which determined that Fine Air had inadequate control over its cargo operation, the airline agreed to stop flying in early September. FAA's inspection was in response to a Fine DC-8 which crashed on August 7 in Miami. The cargo carrier has been correcting problems the FAA had brought to light and we are at the point where Fine Air took its first of a series of proving flights on October 20 to determine if it could resume revenue operations.

Proposed Fine for Shipping Hazardous Materials: On October 16, FAA proposed a \$100,000 fine for Reuters America, Inc., the New York-based news service, for shipping undeclared hazardous material. They shipped a Fuji color bleach replenisher, a corrosive liquid, without proper labeling or packaging. Reuters has 30 days to respond to the allegations.

Cuban Border Guard Assists U. S. Coast Guard with Bust: On October 11, a Coast Guard aircraft detected a fast boat south of Cuba. The Cutters MOHAWK and DALLAS attempted to intercept the fast boat before it entered Cuban territorial waters but were unsuccessful. The Cuban Border Guard was contacted by the U. S. Coast Guard and attempted to interdict the fast boat but lost contact of the vessel at darkness. The Cuban Border Guard searched the beaches the following day and found the fast boat abandoned with 3,424 pounds of marijuana on board.

Cutter Seizes U. S. Vessel -- Cocaine: On October 18, the Cutter NORTHLAND detected bags floating around the U. S. fishing vessel ANTARES

near Puerto Rico. The bags contained approximately 16 lbs of cocaine. A boarding team from the cutter arrested the 2 crewmembers and seized the vessel after determining that the cocaine had been onboard the fishing vessel.

Survivor Discloses Drugs-Large Cocaine Load: On October 18, a Colombian recovered by a boat off South Florida disclosed that he had been thrown overboard 2 days earlier during an apparent attempt by two other vessels to bring a large load of cocaine into the U. S. Coast Guard air and surface forces searched the area and found 3,488 lbs of cocaine in 61 bales.

Emergency Funds Allocated to MN: On October 7, \$12.2 million in emergency relief (ER) was approved for repairing Federal-aid highways in MN damaged by flooding this Spring.

FRA Releases Safety Report on CSXT: On October 16, FRA Administrator Jolene M. Molitoris met with CSX Corporation leadership and presented the FRAs Safety Assurance and Compliance Program (SACP) assessment on the CSX Transportation (CSXT) Railroad. The assessment identifies the results of an intensive three month inspection program by the FRA on the CSXT. On October 17, James Schultz, FRA Associate Administrator for Safety, announced his resignation. He was hired by CSXT as Vice President and Chief Safety Officer.

U.S.-Japan Aviation Talks Update: During the week of October 20, formal round of aviation talks between the US and Japan occurred in Washington,

DC.

Issues in Aviation - France: Aviation negotiations were held in Paris, October 15-16, to continue the process of reestablishing a formal U.S.-France air services agreement, preceded by a transition phase. The two sides maintained their positions on what the nature of the final agreement would be while making progress on the length of a transition regime, pricing issues, Paris-Tel Aviv local traffic rights, designations, and service levels during the transition. Next steps include a working group on technical issues associated with code sharing, operational flexibility, and the framework elements of the U.S. open-skies agreement; and a further plenary negotiating session before the end of the year. Meeting dates are to be determined.

FTA Allows Bus Manufacturers Until February 1998 to Adjust Final Assembly Practices: In letters to three bus companies, FTA stated that to ensure continued eligibility of their buses for Federal funding, they should adjust their U.S. manufacturing activities by February 1, 1998, to be consistent with FTA's March 1997 guidance. The companies have contacted FTA concerning a possible extension of the February 1 deadline, and FTA may consider such an extension if they make an adequate showing of necessity. Rep. Peterson of Minnesota has contacted FTA concerning the effect of NAFTA and GATT on FTA's Buy America requirements, and FTA has submitted information to him showing that the requirements are exempt under those agreements.

NAFTA Implementation: On October 16-17, Secretary Slater met with Mexican Secretary Ruiz to further discuss issues related to NAFTA implementation as part of a larger meeting on intermodal transportation issues in Denver, CO. The Secretaries exchanged updates on the NAFTA related issues of small package delivery services, use of 53-foot trailers and safety issues. Though not conclusive, these talks were aimed at eventual resolution of US. concerns with implementing NAFTA's truck and bus access provisions. During the meeting the Secretaries also discussed a number of other transport related issues and signed two technical aviation agreements. Secretary Slater will be responding to Secretary Ruiz in writing to provide further information on a number of the issues raised at the meeting.

Court Grants DOT Rehearing Request in Airport Rates and Charges Case: On October 15, the Federal Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit granted our request that it correct its decision on the policy statement on airport rates and charges adopted by the Department and the FAA. As we requested, the Court amended its opinion so that it vacates only the portions of the policy statement reviewed by the Court, not the entire policy statement.

Daylight Saving Time Ends: On October 20, the Department which regulate time zones, reminded the public that most of the United States will return to standard time at 2 a.m. on October 26, when clocks will be set back one hour.

WORK ON PRESIDENTIAL POLICY PRIORITIES

RACE RELATIONS INITIATIVE

Working Group Formed: A Departmental working group was formed to discuss, review and develop a comprehensive approach to support the Presidents Initiative on Race. Each of the Departments 23 departmental offices and modal administrations will be involved in this effort. The group will make recommendations to the Secretary regarding internal race issues as well as race issues in the external transportation sector. The next meeting will be held on November 4.

Model Work Environment Conference: On December 2-4, FAA will hold a model work environment conference in Washington, DC. The conference will provide information to participants who play a role in creating a model work environment with particular emphasis on managing diversity, equal employment opportunity and affirmative action. Invitees include FAA supervisors and managers, recruitment and diversity advocates, union representatives, special emphasis program managers and employee associations and employees. FAA Administrator Garvey will be the opening day keynote speaker.

FRAUD AWARENESS AND INVESTIGATIVE RESULTS

Odometer Fraud Conviction: On October 3, as a result of an odometer fraud

investigation conducted by NHTSA's Odometer Fraud Staff, James Gschwend, the owner of Custom Concepts in Lubbock, TX was sentenced in U.S. District Court, Northern District of TX to 24 months incarceration, fined \$6,000, and ordered to pay \$64,000 in restitution. Gschwend had previously pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit odometer fraud and two counts of interstate transportation of fraudulent securities. He admitted to altering the odometers and titles on more than 125 vehicles.

Virginia trucking company officials plead guilty to second round of false drivers log charges: On October 14, R&B Express, its owner, Williams D. Cress, and Linda Henderlite, an employee, each pled guilty in U.S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia to conspiring to systematically falsify drivers logs. In August 1996, Cress and R&B Express were charged with one count of conspiracy as a result of an OIG investigation. However, prior to sentencing, new information was developed that indicated the practice of falsifying logs was continuing. A second search warrant was then executed, which resulted in additional indictments.

Defendants sentenced in \$400,000 motor fuel excise tax evasion scheme: On October 9, William D. Forrester, Glen David and Randall C. Eli were sentenced in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia for receiving kickbacks in excess of \$430,000 in a scheme involving evasion of motor fuel excise taxes. The defendants received sentences including home detention for periods ranging from 4 to 6 months, probation from 30 to 32 months, and were ordered to pay restitution, fines, or perform community service. The case was investigated jointly by OIG, IRS-CID and the

Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

Fastener company pleads guilty and is sentenced for charges relating to substandard aviation parts: On October 9, Transpec Fasteners, Inc., pled guilty to one count of mail fraud in U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and was fined \$120,000. The charges arose after an undercover Suspected Unapproved Parts (SUPs) task force investigation by OIG, FBI, DCIS and various DOD agencies revealed that Transpec sold substandard fasteners to the DOD and commercial aviation suppliers.

FAA employee arrested for postal obstruction offense: On October 10, Sharjeel G. Sahibzada, a temporary GS-5 Supply Technician serving as mail clerk for the FAA Eastern Region, was arrested by Postal Inspectors and OIG agents on charges of discarding mail after picking it up at the airport post office for delivery to the FAA. A criminal complaint was filed on that date in the Eastern District of New York, charging Sahibzada with discarding mail intended for delivery to the FAA between November 1996 and October 1997.

Former FAA employee jailed for embezzlement: On October 10, as a result of an OIG investigation, William S. Stewart, a former imprest fund cashier for the FAA in Denver, CO pled guilty to one count of mail fraud in an embezzlement scheme from which he unlawfully obtained Federal funds in excess of \$20,000. Stewart was sentenced by the U.S. District Court, District of Colorado, to incarceration for a period of 8 months, 3 months probation, and approximately \$27,000 restitution.

BACK TO SCHOOL

Garrett A. Morgan Coast Guard Initiative: On October 15, the Cleveland Federal Executive Board unanimously adopted a U. S. Coast Guard proposal to partner with the Garrett Morgan Middle School in Cleveland. This school, which Secretary Slater chose in May 1997 to launch the national Garrett Morgan program, is a magnet school for both math and science, and is expected to positively impact other city schools. Ninth Coast Guard District military and civilian volunteers are already serving as school tutors, and, over the last summer, Coast Guard and TRW employees made a significant contribution by installing 60 computers at the school.

On September 16, the Liaison Outreach and Service Program staff made a presentation to about 115 fourth graders at the Barbieri School in Framingham, MA about the Garrett A. Morgan Transportation Futures initiative and career opportunities in the transportation field. The LOSP Director shared the podium with the head of the Parents Association of the school, who is an airline pilot.

On October 16, as part of FTA's Garrett A. Morgan activities, FTA's Associate Administrator for Budget and Policy, Michael Winter, was the luncheon speaker at a career day for disabled high school students held at Clarke County Senior High School in Barryville, VA. This is an annual event run in conjunction with Access Independence of Winchester, VA. Over one hundred students from five surrounding counties were in attendance.

NOTABLE CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

FY98 MARAD Authorization: On October 22, conferees are meeting to consider the FY98 Defense Authorization bill, which includes language authorizing the Maritime Administrations operations and training and Title XI loan guarantee programs.

FY98 DOT Appropriations: H.R. 2169, the FY98 appropriations bill for the Department, has been sent to the White House for the Presidents signature.

ISTEA: Progress continues to be slow on S. 1173, the Senate ISTEA II bill. On October 20, the Senate resumed consideration of the bill, but little progress has been made this week. On October 21, Majority Leader Lott announced a cloture vote on campaign finance reform for October 23, with a second vote possible on October 24 or October 25. Amendments to S. 1173 must be filed one hour before the first cloture vote {the time has not yet been set). Although some Members have threatened to offer dozens of amendments, only a few amendments have been filed so far. Several controversial amendments, including the Byrd-Gramm amendment to increase highway authorizations, are expected. While it is possible that the ISTEA debate will continue later this week, it is increasingly likely that the Senate will begin work on a short-term extension of ISTEA.

Continuing Resolution: On October 22, the House passed, by voice vote, H.J.Res. 97, a continuing resolution to extend until November 7 funding at FY97 levels for all departments and agencies lacking enacted FY98 spending bills. The Senate is also expected to complete its action on the measure on October 22.

Coast Guard Authorization: On October 21, the House passed, by voice vote, H.R. 2204, the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1997. The bill authorizes approximately \$3.9 billion for the U.S. Coast Guard for FY98 and FY99 --equal to the Presidents request -- plus an additional \$97 million above the request for drug-interdiction efforts. Several non-controversial amendments were adopted by voice vote.

Amtrak Reform: On October 22, the House is currently debating H.R. 2247, the Amtrak Reform and Privatization Act.

Aviation Noise Reduction Research and Development: On October 21, the House Science Subcommittee on Technology held a hearing on aviation noise reduction research and development. James Erickson, Director of the Federal Aviation Administrations Office of Environment and Energy, will testified.

Removing Economic Restrictions on Airports: On October 21, the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation held a hearing on removing economic restrictions on airports. Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs, Patrick Murphy, will testified.

U.S. Passenger Cruise Ships: On October 21, the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine held a hearing on S.803, legislation to permit the transportation of passengers between U.S. ports by certain foreign-flag vessels, and on S. 668, legislation to increase the economic benefits to the U.S. from the

activities of cruise ships visiting Alaska. The Department did not testify.

Death on the High Seas Act: On October 23, the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee will hold a hearing on the Death on the High Seas Act. The Department will not be invited to testify.

Sexual Harassment Within the FAA: On October 23, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Aviation has tentatively scheduled a hearing on sexual harassment within the Federal Aviation Administration. FAA Administrator, Jane Garvey, will testify.

Long-Term Budget Issues: On October 23, the House Budget Committee is planning a hearing on uses for a possible budgetary surplus. The Department will not testify. The first panel of witnesses will feature 10 Members, including Representative Livingston. The second panel will feature Representative Shuster, who is expected to speak in favor of tapping any surplus for transportation purposes.

Aviation Competition Enhancement: On October 28, the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee will hold a hearing on enhancement of aviation competition. Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs Charles Hunnicutt will testify.

Wright Amendment: On October 30, the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee will hold a hearing on the Wright Amendments restrictions on air service at Love Field. Deputy Assistant Secretary for

Aviation and International Affairs, Patrick Murphy, will testify.

Oil Pollution Prevention: On October 30, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation tentatively plans to hold a hearing on oil pollution prevention and efforts by the Department to test new technologies to improve vessel safety. The Coast Guard is expected to testify.

Hazardous Materials Transportation: On November 6, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Surface Transportation will hold a hearing on reauthorization of the hazardous materials transportation program. The Department will testify.

The Deputy Secretary's Schedule

October 24-25

The Deputy Secretary will meet with the Russian Minister of Transport in Moscow, Russia to discuss key transportation issues.

November 1

The Deputy Secretary will participate in the formal commissioning of the Coast Guard Cutter KATHERINE WALKER in Bayonne, NJ.

November 2

The Deputy Secretary will deliver the keynote address at the TRB's "National Conference on Intermodal Transportation Education and Training"

pre-conference dinner in Washington, DC.

November 12-14

The Deputy Secretary will participate in high level US-Japan meetings in Tokyo and will also participate transportation and security meetings with the Salt Lake Organizing Committee for the Olympic Winter Games in Nagano.

Modal Administrators/Assistant Secretaries

October 18-29

SLSDC Acting Administrator Sanders will attend SAITEX conference and will hold Seaway trade development meetings in Johannesburg, South Africa.

October 20-24

The Inspector General, Ken Mead, will conduct a familiarization tour of the LA Metro Rail project and stopover for an oversight visit in Kansas City Regional Office.

October 21-24

NHTSA Deputy Administrator Recht will speak at ITS Americas 4th Annual World Congress in Berlin, Germany.

October 23-24

FAA Administrator Garvey will address the AOPA in Orlando, FL.

FTA Deputy Administrator Fernandez will speak at FTA/FHWA Joint Meeting in Los Angeles, CA.

October 24

RSPA Acting Administrator Coyner will speak on behalf of the Secretary at the 20th Anniversary of the University Transportation Centers Program at the University of California at Berkeley.

FHWA Acting Administrator Jeff will speak at the Conference on Minority Transportation Officials in Miami, FL.

October 26-27

FTA Deputy Administrator Fernandez will speak at the UPTRAN/Passenger Transportation Division Annual Meeting in Belair, MI.

October 28

USCG Admiral Kramek will attend the Coast Guard Combat Veterans Person of the Year presentation.

FTA Administrator Linton will speak at RailVolution in St. Louis, MO.

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs Horsley will address the Intertribal Transportation Association in Spokane, WA.

Acting Deputy Administrator Kane will speak at the International Road Federations executive conference in Arlington, VA.

October 28-29

FRA Administrator Molitoris will be a keynote speaker at the International

Conference on Railroading in San Diego, CA.

October 29

USCG Admiral Kramek will address students at the National Defense University.

RSPA Acting Administrator Coyner will attend a meeting with Government University Industry Research Round table members in Washington, D.C.

FHWA Acting Administrator Jeff will address the National Personal Transportation Survey Symposium in Bethesda, MD.

October 30

USCG Admiral Kramek will attend the Coast Guard Foundation Dinner in New York City.

USCG Vice Admiral Herr will attend the Executive Committee Meeting of the Coast Guard Foundation in New York City.

RSPA Acting Administrator Coyner will participate in launching the Morgan Education Round table in Washington, DC.

October 31

FTA Administrator Linton will address the Shreveport Chamber of Commerces Minority Business Council in Shreveport, LA.

NHTSA Administrator Martinez will be the featured speaker at the

International Conference on Innovative Occupant Protection in Passenger Cars, Berlin, Germany.

October 31-Nov 2

USCG Admiral Kramek will attend the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Armed Services (DACOWITS) annual conference being hosted by the Coast Guard in Tampa, FL.

November 3

RSPA Acting Administrator Coyner will speak at the Transportation Research Board National Conference on Intermodal Transportation Education and Training.

USCG Admiral Kramek will meet with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

NHTSA Administrator Martinez will meet with representatives of Mercedes-Benz, Stuttgart, Germany.

November 4

Admiral Kramek will attend the USO sponsored Salute to the Military Chefs Banquet in Washington, DC.

November 4-5

Admiral Kramek will host the Senior Advisory Group.

November 5

Assistant Secretary for Government Affairs Palmer will address the
National Conference of State Legislatures Assembly in Washington, DC.

NHTSA Administrator Martinez will give a presentation to the Working Party
29 (Construction of Vehicles), Geneva, Switzerland.

November 5-6

FAA Administrator Garvey will speak at Commerce 97 in Hartford, CT.

November 5 - 7

General Counsel McFadden will speak at the Ninth International Aviation
Law and Insurance Seminar in London, England.

November 6

Admiral Kramek will speak to new flag and general officers participating
in the CAPSTONE program.

Deputy Secretary Downey and RSPA Acting Administrator Coyner will tour the
Chemical Manufacturing Associations Chemical Transportation Emergency
Center in Rosslyn, VA.

November 6-7

NHTSA Administrator Martinez will participate in the Third Annual
Conference of the Transatlantic Business Dialogue in Rome, Italy.

November 7

USCG Admiral Kramek will attend the Admiral of the Ocean Seas Awards event

in NY.

November 9-13

FAA Administrator Garvey will participate in Directors General of Civil Aviation meeting in Montreal, Canada.

November 12

USCG Admiral Kramek will attend the ABS council meeting and dinner in NYC.

November 13

NHTSA Administrator Martinez will speak at the STAPP Car Crash Conference, Lake Buena Vista, FL.

November 14

FAA Administrator Garvey will meet with citizens on noise issues in Los Angeles, CA.

November 14-16

SLSDC Acting Administrator Sanders will participate in a dedication of a memorial at Eisenhower Lock in Massena, NY.

November 14-18

Inspector General Mead will address the Annual Meeting of AASHTO in Salt Lake City, UT.

November 15

USCG Admiral Kramek will host the launching ceremony of the new Coast

Guard icebreaker, HEALY, in New Orleans, LA.

November 16

RSPA Acting Administrator Coyner will speak at the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials on the Garrett A. Morgan Technology and Transportation Futures Program.

November 16-25

Admiral Kramek will lead the U.S. delegation to the 20th Regular Assembly of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London, UK. He will also hold an editorial board with Lloyds List in London on November 20.

November 18

FTA Administrator Linton will participate on a panel on Technology Sharing and Transit System Development at Moran State University in Baltimore, MD.

November 20

FAA Administrator Garvey will visit Delta Airlines in Atlanta, GA.

December 2

Inspector General Mead will address the annual meeting of AASHTO in Salt Lake City, UT.

December 3

USCG Admiral Kramek will meet with the Chairman of the NTSB and the Interdiction Committee.

December 9

USCG Admiral Kramek will meet with the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Johnson, and also attend the Ocean Principals Group Meeting.

December 10

USCG Vice Admiral Herr will co-chair the Navy-Coast Guard Board with the Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

February 1998

Inspector General, Ken Mead, will coordinate the upcoming retreat for the Presidents Council on Integrity and Efficiency, and the Executive Council on Integrity and Efficiency.

MEDIA INQUIRIES

Donna Rosato, USA Today, is preparing a story on the 10th anniversary of the airline on-time report. The story is scheduled to run October 29.

Julie Schmidt, USA Today, requested information from RSPA on hazardous materials regulations pertaining to the shipment of toxic gases to and from semiconductor plants. Publication date is not known.

ABC News interviewed NHTSA Administrator Martinez about anti-lock brakes, prompted by AAA study indicating that ABS are not preventing accidents as much as expected.

Chicago Tribune, October 8, called about congestion pricing projects.

Reporter interviewed the director of the Office of Policy Development.

Story date not known.

ABC 20/20, September 19, interviewed the director of the Office of Motor Carrier Field Operations concerning a story on oversight of the charter bus industry. The segment will focus on a crash in Indianapolis in October 1995. Air date not known.

ABC 20/20 is preparing for a segment on risk. John Stossel interviewed NHTSA Administrator Martinez on September 12 concerning the risk associated with riding in automobiles. Expected to air in October.

Dateline has requested information from NHTSA on three different stories:

(1) vans used as school buses (interview requested); (2) the shattering or separating of Ford Explorer sun roofs (interview requested); (3) sport utility vehicles and rollovers.

Wall Street Journal is preparing story on .08 BAC laws and their effect on alcohol statistics. Publication date not known.

USA Today (reporter Carol Jouzaitis) interviewed FHWA Acting Administrator Jeff September 29 about suburban/exurban growth and resistance to new

roads. Publication date not known.

Documentary program Divided Highways to air on WETA-TV on October 22.

FOIA REQUESTS

Enforcement Investigative Reports relating to Northwest Airlines -- Star Tribune, Washington, DC

Congressional correspondence or memos to or from Senator Lauch Faircloth, from 1992 to the present -- Knight-Ridder, Washington, DC

Air traffic tapes between the tower and Continental Flight 2041 regarding an incident at Cleveland Hopkins Airport on October 7, 1997 -- WJW-TV Channel 8

Tower tapes involving Aeroflot landing attempts at Sea-Tac Airport on September 18, 1997 -- KOMO-TV

Point of Contact: For the weekend of October 25-26, Michael Huerta will be the contact. He can be reached through the FAA Operations Center at (202) 267-3333.

AMPLIFICATION REPORT

AMTRAK/JOBS AND ECONOMY

Secretary Slater traveled on an Amtrak train to Wilmington, DE, on October 15 to meet with Governor Carper and regional transit officials about labor talks between the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Ways Employees (BMWE) and Amtrak. Held press conferences in both Wilmington and Washington to amplify the Administration's active mitigation to help protect jobs, also emphasizing economic reform for Amtrak through ISTEA legislation. National, regional and trade press attended the news avails, including USA Today, we set up reporter to travel with the Secretary on the train, The New York Times, Reuters, AP, WABC-NY radio news (live morning drive interview with the Secretary from the train to Wilmington) and regional network affiliates.

GLOBAL ECONOMY

On October 16, Secretary Slater, joined by the Secretaries of Transportation of Canada and Mexico, delivered a keynote address at a North American summit, hosted by the University of Denver's graduate school of intermodalism, which primary focus is integrating various transportation to maximize efficiency and reach. Set up interviews for

Secretary Slater with regional and trade press.

Also, arranged interviews for the Secretary with regional and trade press

about Japanese Port Practices and related action by the FMC. The

Secretary amplified Administration messages related to global

competitiveness in the 21st century and positive economic trends. Related

news continues to move through the country.

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Alice E. Shuffield (Alice E. Shuffield@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:22-OCT-1997 19:55:00.00

SUBJECT: OMB Legislative Report -- October 22, 1997

TO: Ann F. Walker (Ann F. Walker@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: James A. Brown (James A. Brown@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:
Message Creation Date was at 22-OCT-1997 19:55:00

TO: DIRECTOR FRANK RAINES

DEPUTY DIRECTOR JACK LEW

ACTING DEP. DIRECTOR FOR MANAGEMENT ED DESEVE

EXECUTIVE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR JOSH GOTBAUM

FROM: OMB LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

DATE: OCTOBER 22, 1997

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE REPORT

The House passed the second Continuing Resolution (extending funding through November 7th) today by voice vote. Senate action is expected on Thursday at 11am.

On Thursday, the House Budget Committee will hold a hearing on the budgetary

challenges facing America in the next century in Cannon 210 at 10:00 am.

The

witnesses include: Speaker Gingrich, Chairmen Shuster and Ranking Member Oberstar, Chairman Archer and Health Subcommittee Ranking Members Stark, Republican Conference Chairman Boehner, Mr. Neumann, Mr. Minge, Science Ranking

Member Brown, Appropriations Subcommittee Ranking Member Sabo,

Appropriations

Subcommittee Chairman Kolbe, Grover Norquist of Americans for Tax Reform,

William Niskanen, of the Cato Institute, and Bob Greenstein of the Center

on

Budget and Policy Priorities.

CONGRESS TODAY (10/22)

SENATE

Continued consideration of S. 1173 - Intermodal Surface Transportation

Efficiency Act of 1997 [SAP sent, 10/8 -- support Senate passage, but stating

a number of Administration concerns, including making the bill fully consistent

with the Bipartisan Budget Agreement]

Began consideration of H.J.Res. 97 - Making Continuing Appropriations for

FY

1998 - that extends the 1st CR through November 7th.

HOUSE

Approved (voice vote) H.J.Res. 97 - Making Continuing Appropriations for

FY

1998 that extends the 1st CR through November 7th; (Also approved the Rule for consideration by voice vote.)

Passed (248-178) H.R. 1534 - Private Property Rights Implementation Act of 1997

[House Rules SAP sent, 10/21: Attorney General, Interior Secretary, EPA Administrator, & CEQ Chair recommend veto; EPA letter sent, 10/21]

While under consideration of H.R. 1534, the House took the following action:

- o Rejected (178-242) Boehlert substitute amendment to strike language to allow a landowner to appeal local land use decisions.

Began consideration of H.R. 2247 - Amtrak Reform and Privatization Act of 1997

(Adopted the Rule by a vote of 226-200)

[House Rules SAP sent 10/21: Administration strongly opposes]

CONGRESS TOMORROW (10/23)

SENATE

Convene at 9:00am for morning business.

At 11:00am, hold a cloture vote on the modified committee amendment to S.

1173

- Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1997 (If cloture vote is

not invoked on ISTEA at 11am, a second cloture vote could occur on

Thursday

afternoon.)

[SAP sent, 10/8 -- support Senate passage, but stating a number of

Administration concerns, including making the bill fully consistent with the

~~Bipartisan Budget Agreement~~]

Immediately following the cloture vote on the amendment to S. 1173, the

Senate

will vote on H.J.Res. 97 - Making Continuing Appropriations for FY 1998

that

extends the 1st CR through November 7th. (Measure passed the House on

Wednesday

by voice vote.)

Return to consideration of Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency

Act of

1997

Possible - continue consideration of S. 1156 - District of Columbia FY

1998

Appropriations

[SAP sent, 9/18: Senior Advisers recommend veto if the bill contains the school voucher amendment.]

HOUSE

Meet at 10:00 a.m. for legislative business.

Consider H.R. 2247 - Amtrak Reform and Privatization Act of 1997 (Open Rule)

[House Rules SAP sent 10/21: Administration strongly opposes]

Consider H.R. 2646 - Education Savings Act for Public and Private Schools (Closed Rule)

[Rules SAP sent, 10/21: Secretaries of Education & Treasury recommend veto;

Riley/Rubin letter with veto message sent to all House Members, 10/22]

Continue consideration of H.R. 2204 - Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1997

[SAP sent 10/21: Administration supports House passage, but will continue to seek technical amendments]

CONGRESS THIS WEEK

SENATE

Friday, October 24th

Continue consideration of S. 1173 - Intermodal Surface Transportation

Efficiency Act of 1997

[SAP sent, 10/8 -- support Senate passage, but stating a number of

Administration concerns, including making the bill fully consistent with

the

Bipartisan Budget Agreement]

Consider remaining appropriations conference reports, as available

(Interior

possible).

Consider ~~Department~~ of Defense Authorization Conference Report for FY98,

if

available

HOUSE

Friday, October 24th

Meet at 9:00 a.m.

Consider Department of Defense Authorization Conference Report for FY98

(The

Conference Report will likely be filed and go to the Rules Committee on

Thursday

for floor consideration on Friday.)

Consider H.R. 1775 - Intelligence Authorization Conference Report for
FY98, if
available

Consider H.R. 2107 - Interior FY 1998 Appropriations Conference Report
(Subject
to a Rule)

[Letter sent 9/30: Senior advisers veto recommendation based on House
failure
to fund NEA and to provide \$700 million in land acquisition funds (BBA
violation); objectionable House/Senate environmental riders.]

Consider the Rule for H.R. 1270 - Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1997
[SAP-pending: President would veto the bill]

LONG-TERM SCHEDULE

Likely items for consideration the week of October 27th

SENATE

Continue consideration of S. 1173 - Intermodal Surface Transportation
Efficiency Act of 1997
Fast Track Legislation
Adoption Bill
Amtrak Bill
Coast Guard Authorization Bill

HOUSE

H.R. 2616 - Charter Schools Amendments Act of 1997

[Rules SAP currently pending]

H.R. 1270 - Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1997

[SAP currently pending]

The following "China bills" (possible the week of November 3rd):

o H.Res. 188 - Urging Action on Iran acquisition of C-802 cruise missile

[No SAP]

o H.R. 967 - Excluding Certain Chinese Officials From the U.S.

[SAP pending: Administration opposes]

o H.R. 2232 - Radio-Free Asia Act of 1997

[No SAP]

o H.R. 2358 - Political Freedom in China Act

[SAP pending: Administration opposes]

o H.R. 2386 - US-Taiwan Anti-Ballistic Missile Defense Cooperation Act

[SAP pending: Administration opposes]

o H.R. 2570 - Forced Abortion Condemnation Act

[SAP pending: Administration opposes]

o H.R. 2580 - Monitor People's Liberation Army of China's Commercial Activities in U.S.

[SAP pending: Administration opposes]

o H.R. 2195 Laogai Slave Labor Products Act of 1997

[No SAP]

BILLS IN CONFERENCE:

o Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act

o Foreign Ops Appropriations

- o Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations
- o Interior Appropriations (not filed yet)
- o CJS Appropriations
- o Ex-Im (conferees are trying to work out issues before conferencing)

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Alice E. Shuffield (Alice E. Shuffield@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:23-OCT-1997 20:23:00.00

SUBJECT: OMB Legislative Report -- October 23, 1997

TO: Ann F. Walker (Ann F. Walker@eop [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: James A. Brown (James A. Brown@eop [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Message Creation Date was at 23-OCT-1997 20:23:00

TO: DIRECTOR FRANK RAINES

DEPUTY DIRECTOR JACK LEW

ACTING DEP. DIRECTOR FOR MANAGEMENT ED DESEVE

EXECUTIVE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR JOSH GOTBAUM

FROM: OMB LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

DATE: OCTOBER 23, 1997

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE REPORT

This afternoon, the President signed the 2nd Continuing Resolution, which extends the first Continuing Resolution through November 7th for the eight remaining bills.

CONGRESS TODAY (10/23)

SENATE

Two cloture votes today failed on the modified committee amendment to S.

1173,

the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1997; The first vote

was 48-52, and the second vote was 48-50. (A third cloture vote will occur

Friday morning at 9:45am)

[SAP sent, 10/8 -- support Senate passage, but stating a number of

Administration concerns, including making the bill fully consistent with the

Bipartisan Budget Agreement]

Passed (100-0) H.J.Res. 97 - Making Continuing Appropriations for FY 1998

- to

extend the 1st CR through November 7th. (Measure passed the House on

Wednesday

by voice vote.)

Passed S. 1266, relating to the term kidnapping in extradition treaties

(with a

Helms substitute)

Passed S. Res. 138, relating to Rules Committee expenditures

HOUSE

Passed (230-198) H.R. 2646 - Education Savings Act for Public and Private

Schools (Closed Rule)

[Rules SAP sent, 10/21: Secretaries of Education & Treasury recommend veto;

Riley/Rubin letter with veto message sent to all House Members, 10/22]

While under consideration of H.R. 2646, the House took the following action:

o Rejected (199-224) Rangle substitute amendment to increase the volume cap in current law on school construction bonds from \$4 million to \$4 billion.

Rejected (204-222, 1 present) H.Res. 276 - Privilege of the House regarding Dornan-Sanchez contested election case.

CONGRESS TOMORROW (10/24)

SENATE

At 9:45am, the Senate will again vote on a cloture motion on the modified committee amendment to S. 1173, the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1997. (Cloture was defeated twice on Thursday.)

If cloture is invoked (which is unlikely) the Senate would continue consideration of ISTEA; if not, the Senate may turn to available appropriations conference reports, such as the Interior Appropriations bill if it is received from the House (thought there may be efforts to postpone the Interior vote

until next week.)

HOUSE

Meet at 9:00 a.m. for legislative business.

Continue consideration of H.R. 2247 - Amtrak Reform and Privatization Act
of

1997 (Open Rule), with votes on amendments and on final Passage.

[House Rules SAP sent 10/21: Administration strongly opposes]

Consider H.R. 2107 - Interior Appropriations Conference Report

[Letter sent 9/30: Senior advisers veto recommendation based on House
failure

to fund NEA and to provide \$700 million in land acquisition funds (BBA
violation); objectionable House/Senate environmental riders.]

Consider H.R. 1119 - Defense Authorization Conference Report for FY98

WEEK OF OCTOBER 27th

SENATE

Continue consideration of S. 1156 - District of Columbia FY 1998

Appropriations

[SAP sent, 9/18: Senior Advisers recommend veto if the bill contains the
school

voucher amendment.]

Consider remaining appropriations conference reports, as available.

Consider Department of Defense Authorization Conference Report for FY98,

as

available

Continue consideration of ISTEA/highway legislation.

HOUSE

Continue consideration of H.R. 1911 - Department of Defense Authorization

Conference Report for FY98, if necessary

Consider H.R. 1775 - Intelligence Authorization Conference Report for

FY98, if

available

Consider H.R. 1270 - Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1997

[SAP pending: President would veto the bill]

H.R. 2616 - Charter Schools Amendments Act of 1997

[Rules SAP sent, 9/23: Administration supports House passage]

Consider remaining appropriations conference reports, if available

LONG-TERM SCHEDULE

SENATE

Fast Track legislation

Adoption Bill

Amtrak Bill

Coast Guard Authorization Bill

HOUSE

The following China bills (possible the week of November 3rd):

- o H.Res. 188 - Urging Action on Iran acquisition of C-802 cruise missile

[No SAP]

- o H.R. 967 - Excluding Certain Chinese Officials From the U.S.

[SAP pending: Administration opposes]

- o H.R. 2232 - Radio Free Asia Act of 1997

[No SAP]

- o H.R. 2358 - Political Freedom in China Act

[SAP pending: Administration opposes]

- o H.R. 2386 - US-Taiwan Anti-Ballistic Missile Defense Cooperation Act

[SAP pending: Administration opposes]

- o H.R. 2570 - Forced Abortion Condemnation Act

[SAP pending: Administration opposes]

- o H.R. 2580 - Monitor People's Liberation Army of China's Commercial Activities in U.S.

[SAP pending: Administration opposes]

- o H.R. 2195 Laogai Slave Labor Products Act of 1997

[No SAP]

BILLS IN CONFERENCE:

- o Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act

- o Foreign Ops Appropriations
- o Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations
- o CJS Appropriations
- o Ex-Im (conferees are trying to work out issues before conferencing)

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Charles Konigsberg (Charles Konigsberg@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:27-OCT-1997 13:44:00.00

SUBJECT: Re: SENATE DEM STAFF DIRECTORS' MTG

CC: Alice E. Shuffield (Alice E. Shuffield@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Barry B. Anderson (Barry B. Anderson@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Charles E. Kieffer (Charles E. Kieffer@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Charles Konigsberg (Charles Konigsberg@EOP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Clarence C. Crawford (Clarence C. Crawford@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Gordon Adams (Gordon Adams@EOP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: James C. Murr (James C. Murr@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Janet Himler (Janet Himler@EOP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Jill M. Blickstein (Jill M. Blickstein@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Kate P. Donovan (Kate P. Donovan@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Lisa M. Kountoupes (Lisa M. Kountoupes@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Michael Deich (Michael Deich@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Robert G. Damus (Robert G. Damus@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Sally Katzen (Sally Katzen@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: T J. Glauthier (T J. Glauthier@eop [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:
Message Creation Date was at 27-OCT-1997 13:44:00

[Please do not forward]

Notes from this morning !,s Democratic Staff Directors !, meeting:

ISTEA: 4th cloture vote on ISTEA will occur Tuesday morning. If cloture fails, Lott may pull the bill. Larry Stein said the only way to get out of the current impasse is to get a deal for a time certain on McCain-Feingold (Dems have been threatening to amend ISTEA with campaign finance in the absence of an agreement for a vote on McCain-Feingold).

Lott is still attempting to get Senate action on the multiyear bill, but the expectation is that at some point he will shift to a temporary extension.

Michael -- English and Stein need Administration input on what a simple extension -- to get us to next Spring -- would require. It !,s possible the Leadership may want to insert a simple extension into one of the approps conf. reports.

FAST-TRACK: It !,s possible the Senate could take up fast-track this week; a

cloture vote may be necessary on the motion to proceed and on the bill

APPROPRIATIONS:

Interior: Jim English said he still has no indication whether the Administration will agree to the Interior conf. report; Barbara Chow said "we are still evaluating"

DC: English said there is still no resolution on vouchers

CJS: English said census and courts remain problematic issues

Foreign Ops: Mexico City still needs to be resolved

Ag: Still tied up with FDA reform impasse

AMTRAK: Jeffords may attempt to move a measure to preclude a strike for 90 days; Kennedy !,s staff said they will push for 5 days, as a cooling off period

FED RESERVE NOMINEES: Cloture may be required since Harkin is considering a

filibuster===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:
The following attachments were included with this message:

TYPE : FILE

NAME : 1027.wpd

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

===== ATTACHMENT 2 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

Unable to convert ARMS_EXT:[ATTACH.D38]ARMSZZ000BTK8.001 to ASCII,
The following is a HEX DUMP:

===== END ATTACHMENT 2 =====

[Please do not forward]

Notes from this morning's Democratic Staff Directors' meeting:

ISTEA: 4th cloture vote on ISTEA will occur Tuesday morning. If cloture fails, Lott may pull the bill. Larry Stein said the only way to get out of the current impasse is to get a deal for a time certain on McCain Feingold (Dems have been threatening to amend ISTEA with campaign finance in the absence of an agreement for a vote on McCain-Feingold).

Lott is still attempting to get Senate action on the multiyear bill, but the expectation is that at some point he will shift to a temporary extension. **Michael -- English and Stein need Administration input on what a simple extension -- to get us to next Spring -- would require.** It's possible the Leadership may want to insert a simple extension into one of the approps conf. reports.

FAST-TRACK: It's possible the Senate could take up fast-track this week; a cloture vote may be necessary on the motion to proceed and on the bill

APPROPRIATIONS:

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FED RESERVE NOMINEES: Cloture may be required since Harkin is considering a filibuster

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Charles Konigsberg (Charles Konigsberg@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 8-NOV-1997 00:54:00.00

SUBJECT: Re: OMB Legislative Report -- November 7, 1997

CC: Ann F. Walker (Ann F. Walker@eop [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

CC: James A. Brown (James A. Brown@eop [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Message Creation Date was at 8-NOV-1997 00:54:00

TO: DIRECTOR FRANK RAINES

DEPUTY DIRECTOR JACK LEW

ACTING DEP. DIRECTOR FOR MANAGEMENT ED DESEVE

EXECUTIVE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR JOSH GOTBAUM

FROM: OMB LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

DATE: NOVEMBER 7, 1997

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Both the Senate and House approved (voice) H.J.Res. 101, the third

Continuing

Resolution to fund the remaining FY 1998 Appropriations through Sunday,

November 9th. The President signed the bill this evening at 8:45pm.

CONGRESS TODAY (11/7)

SENATE

Approved the following measures by unanimous consent or voice vote:

- o S. 738 - Amtrak reform legislation
- o S1454 - ISTEA 6-month extension
- o HR 1377 (as amended) - Savings Are Vital to Everyone's Retirement Act of 1997
- o S 170 - Clone Pager Authorization Act
- o S 1079 - Fort Berthold Indian Reservation Mineral Leasing
- o HR 1747 - Authorizing additional Kennedy Center parking
- o SConRes 48 - Relating to Iran/missiles
- o S 1456 - Fort Peck museum
- o S 1455 - Rhode Island museum

Confirmed (93-6) the nomination of Christina A. Snyder of California to be

a

U.S. district judge for the Central District of California.

Also on Friday, Senator Kerrey sought unanimous consent to bring up the

IRS

reform bill, and Chairman Roth (Finance Committee) objected to

consideration

this session.

HOUSE

- o Approved (352-65) H.R. 2264 - Labor/HHS/Education FY98 Approps Conference

Report

- o Approved (385-36) S. 858 - Intelligence Authorization for FY 1998

Conference

Report

- o Approved (367-57) H.R. 2616 - Charter Schools Amendments Act

--Approved (256-163) Riggs motion to table the Doggett motion to reconsider the

vote by which the House passed the bill to authorize \$100 million in fiscal

1998 to provide federal assistance to states for establishing new charter schools and evaluating existing charter schools.

--Rejected (164-260) Tierney amendment that would have eliminated the bill's

provisions that grant priority for certain federal funding to states that give

charter schools financial autonomy, expand the number of charter schools established each year and periodically review charter school performance.

- o Approved (408-10) H.R. 2647 - A Bill to Ensure that Commercial Activities of

the People's Liberation Army of China or any Communist Chinese Military Company in the U.S. are Monitored and are Subject to the Authorities under the

International Emergency Economic Powers Act

[SAP sent, 11/4: Administration opposes]

CONGRESS SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (11/8 - 11/9):

SENATE

Convene on Saturday at 12:00 noon and on Sunday at 1pm.

- o Labor/HHS/Education Approps Conference Report (likely Saturday)

- o District of Columbia Approps

[SAP sent, 9/18: Senior Advisers recommend veto if the bill contains the school voucher amendment.]

- o FDA Reform-Conference Report (likely Saturday)

[HHS letter sent: Senior Advisors Veto Threat for medical device provision]

- o Adoption/Foster Care legislation (likely Saturday)

- o Commerce/Justice/State Approps (as available)

- o Foreign Operations Approps (as available)

- o Fast Track Legislation (Senate likely to vote later next week, if Fast Track

passes the House)

- o H.R. 2513 - Restoration and Modification of Provisions of the Taxpayer Relief

Act of 1997 (possible after the House acts on Saturday - although

unanimous consent will be required)

[SAP pending: support the tax fixes, but the offsets may not be sufficient to

cover the PAYGO revenue losses; will work with the Congress.]

HOUSE

Convene at 12:00 noon on Saturday and at 2:00pm on Sunday for legislative business. Suspensions may be brought up with an Hour's Notice.

Consider the remaining FY 1998 Appropriations bills, as available:

- o District of Columbia

[SAP sent, 9/18: Senior Advisers recommend veto if the bill contains the school voucher amendment.]

- o Foreign Operations

- o Commerce/Justice State

Consider H.R. 2621 - Reciprocal Trade Agreement Authorities Act of 1997

(likely
Sunday)

Consider the following Suspensions (expected Saturday):

- o H.R. 2631 - Military Construction LIV Disapproval Bill

[SAP pending: POTUS will veto]

- o H.R. 2534 - Agricultural Research, Extension, & Education
Reauthorization Act

[SAP pending: Support House passage]

- o H. Res. 122 - Sense of the House regarding Tactile Currency for the
Blind

- o H.R. 2614 - Reading Excellence Act

[SAP sent 11/7: Supports House passage if anticipated amendments are
included]

in the bill]

- o S. 813 - Veterans Cemetery Protection Act of 1997

- o S. 1139 - SBA Reauthorization Act of 1997

- o S. 714 - Native American Veteran Housing Loans

[No SAP: No objection]

- o H.R. 2513 - Restoration and Modification of Provisions of the Taxpayer Relief

Act of 97

[SAP pending: support the tax fixes, but the offsets may not be sufficient to

cover the PAYGO revenue losses; will work with the Congress.]

- o S. 1377 - Technical Corrections to the American Legion Charter

- o H.R. 2813 - Waive Time Limitation on Awarding Medals of Honor

- o H.R. 1129 - Microcredit for Self Reliance Act of 1997

- o H.Con.Res. 22 - Religious Persecution in Germany

Possible -continue consideration of China bills, as appropriate:

H.R. 2570 - Forced Abortion Condemnation Act

[SAP sent, 11/4: Administration agrees with the objective, but strongly opposes

the bill due to foreign policy and constitutional concerns]

H.R. 2232 - Radio Free Asia Act of 1997

[No SAP - support informally]

H.R. 2605 - Communist China Subsidy Reduction Act of 1997

[SAP sent, 11/4: Administration opposes]

H.Res. 188 - Urging Action on Iran acquisition of C-802 cruise missile

[No SAP]

H.R. 2386 - US-Taiwan Anti-Ballistic Missile Defense Cooperation Act

[SAP sent, 11/4: Administration opposes]

H.R. 2647 - A Bill to Ensure that Commercial Activities of the People's

Liberation Army of China or any Communist Chinese Military Company in the

U.S.

are Monitored and are Subject to the Authorities under the International

Emergency Economic Powers Act

[SAP sent, 11/4: Administration opposes]

H.Res. 188 - Urging Action on Iran acquisition of C-802 cruise missile

[No SAP]

H.R. 2386 - US-Taiwan Anti-Ballistic Missile Defense Cooperation Act

[SAP sent, 11/4: Administration opposes]

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Kate P. Donovan (Kate P. Donovan@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-NOV-1997 18:03:00.00

SUBJECT: OMB Legislative Report - November 10, 1997

TO: Ann F. Walker (Ann F. Walker@eop [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: James A. Brown (James A. Brown@eop [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Message Creation Date was at 10-NOV-1997 18:03:00

TO: DIRECTOR FRANK RAINES

DEPUTY DIRECTOR JACK LEW

ACTING DEP. DIRECTOR FOR MANAGEMENT

ED DESEVE

EXECUTIVE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR JOSH GOTBAUM

FROM: OMB LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

DATE: NOVEMBER 10, 1997

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Monday morning the Senate passed (voice) H.J.Res. 105, a 5th Continuing Resolution through Friday, November 14th, clearing the measure for the President.

The House and Senate will reconvene at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, November 12th.

Last night, House and Senate negotiators agreed on a 7-month highway extension. While it passed the Senate, House action is expected this week.

The Senate plans to take up the multi-year ISTEA bill as its first order of business next year; the House is still expecting to consider the multi-year bill later in the Spring, in the context of the budget resolution.

Late last week, Senate Minority Leader Daschle appointed Senators Jay Rockefeller and Bob Kerrey to the Medicare Commission; they are the first of 17 commissioners to be appointed by the congressional leadership and the President. The Commission is due to begin its work December 1.

CONGRESS TODAY (11/10)

SENATE

Passed S1519, the 7-month temporary highway extension.

PASSED THE FOLLOWING BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT:

- S 493 (relating to cell phones) with Hatch and Kyl amendments.
- HR 1840 (relating to advertising of certain electronic devices).
- HR1090 (relating to Revisions of Decisions on Veterans benefits Based on

Clear and Unmistakable Error) [SAP sent 4/15/97: oppose]

- S923 (denial of veterans benefits to people convicted of Federal capital offenses) - concur in amendments of House
- S714 (VA housing loan pilot program) - concur in amendments of House
- HR2813 (relating to awarding of a medal of honor)
- HR2366 (relating to census of agriculture)
- HR1658 (striped bass legislation)
- S1517 (extend visa waiver pilot program)
- S222 (establish advisory comm. on drought emergencies)

HOUSE

The House was not in session on Monday.

CONGRESS - Balance of the week:

House and Senate are both in recess tomorrow, Tuesday, in observance of Veterans Day. Congress hope to adjourn sine die (ending the first session of the 105th Congress) on Thursday, November 13 or Friday, November 14.

SENATE

Convene on Wednesday at 12:00 noon.

- o Additional motions, if necessary, with respect to omnibus appropriations.
- o Adoption/foster care.
- o Any other legislative or executive items which can be cleared for action.
- o No rollcall votes until Thursday.

HOUSE

House will reconvene on Wednesday, November 12th, at noon for consideration of the following items (no votes before 5pm):

ISTEA extension

Amtrak Reform Legislation

H.R. 2607 - Omnibus appropriations bill, as passed by the Senate. The bill

contains appropriations for the following measures:

--District of Columbia

--Foreign Operations

--Commerce/Justice State

It is likely that the measures will be considered individually rather than as part of an omnibus.

The House could still consider a number of items under suspension of the rule.

Candidates for such consideration include the following:

o S. 1378 - To extend the authorization of use of official mail in the location

and recovery of missing children, and for other purposes

o H.R. 764 - Bankruptcy Amendments of 1997

o H.R. 2440 - Technical Corrections to Section 10 of Title 9 USC

o H.J.Res. 95 - Granting the Consent of Congress to the Chickasaw Trail

Economic Development Compact

o H.J.Res. 96 - Granting the Consent and Approval of Congress for the
State of

Maryland, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the District of Columbia to
amend

the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Regulation Compact

o S. 1079 - Fort Berthold Indian Reservation Mineral Leasing

o S. 1604; S.Con.Res. 61; S.Con.Res. 62; S.Con.Res. 63; H.R. 2977; H.R.
2979;

H.R. 2834

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: nobody (nobody@www2.whitehouse.gov@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:21-NOV-1997 13:41:00.00

SUBJECT: Guest_Book_WH_WWW_MAIL

TO: guestbook (guestbook@EOP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Remote host: pml-23.chico.cmc.net

Remote IP address: 206.102.29.24

BROWSER: Mozilla/3.0 (compatible; MSIE 3.01; Mac_PowerPC)

[Sender information]

PERSONAL-NAME: John F. Shields

[Message information]

SUBJECT: passenger rail service in the USA: renewal &
improvement

[Message content follows]

We need a better-balanced public transportation system in the US. The vast majority of federal and state subsidy goes to highway and airline/airport interests, since these are the most obvious major providers of transport and have the biggest lobbies. However, increased highway and airport/airway congestion suggest a new look at rail travel. Please sign the AMTRAK reauthorization bill just passed

by Congress, and support other effort to improve and expand passenger rail
service, particularly high speed

rail projects. ISTEA-II legislation coming should include "flexibility"

provisions to allow state to allocate funds to high speed rail projects.

Thank you, John Shields, Chico, California===== ATTACHMENT 1
=====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

RFC-822-headers:

Received: from conversion.pmdf.eop.gov by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.0-4 #6879)
id <01IQ9SX8ZHDS010D2L@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for guestbook@oa.eop.gov; Fri,
21 Nov 1997 12:45:01 -0500 (EST)

Received: from storm.eop.gov (storm.eop.gov)
by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.0-4 #6879) id <01IQ9SX816TC00TV7Y@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for
guestbook@oa.eop.gov; Fri, 21 Nov 1997 12:44:59 -0500 (EST)

Received: from www2.whitehouse.gov ([198.137.240.92])
by STORM.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-7 #6879)
with SMTP id <01IQ9SWIEDO2001VT2@STORM.EOP.GOV> for guestbook@oa.eop.gov; Fri,

21 Nov 1997 12:44:27 -0500 (EST)

Received: by www2.whitehouse.gov (951211.SGI.8.6.12.PATCH1042/940406.SGI.AUTO)

for guestbook@oa.eop.gov id MAA08751; Fri, 21 Nov 1997 12:41:08 -0500

Apparently-to: guestbook@oa.eop.gov

Keywords: WWW-Correspondence; Guest_Book

Comments: Forwarded from White House WWW.

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Cynthia Coogan (CN=Cynthia Coogan/OU=DOT/O=GOV [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:14-JAN-1998 18:51:31.00

SUBJECT: White House Weekly Report for the Week of January 19, 1998

TO: Cabinet Affairs (Cabinet Affairs [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

MEMORANDUM FOR ERSKINE BOWLES, THE WHITE HOUSE January 14, 1998

FROM: Secretary Slater

SUBJECT: DOT Weekly Report -- Week of January 19, 1998

The following is the Department of Transportation Weekly Report:

KEY DEPARTMENT NEWS

Dr. Martin Luther King Events: On January 15, Secretary Slater, in commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther Kings Birthday, will address the Social Security Administration in Baltimore. The same day, Secretary Slater will also address the employees of the Coast Guard Yard in Baltimore.

Service/CFC: On January 16, Secretary Slater will participate in an event with CFC charity recipients to highlight the progress of the 1997 CFC Campaign and plans for a spring 1998 Federal Employee Volunteer Day.

Secretary in MI: On January 17, Secretary Slater will travel to MI to participate in a MLK Birthday event sponsored by the Urban League of

Greater Muskegon, MI.

Secretary in Memphis: On January 18, Secretary Slater may travel to Memphis, TN to address the congregation of Bountiful Blessing Church and the Olivet Church in commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther Kings Birthday. The Secretary will also meet with Mayor Willie Herenton and Congressman Harold Ford, Jr.

Secretary in Atlanta: On January 19, Secretary Slater will join Vice President Gore and participate in MLK Birthday activities at the King Center in Atlanta, GA.

Secretary in KY: On January 20, Secretary Slater will attend a function honoring retiring Senator Wendell Ford in Owensboro, KY.

Transportation Research Boards (TRB) 77th Annual Meeting: On January 14, Secretary Slater addressed the full conference at the Chairman's Luncheon. The 1998 TRB Conference, being held in Washington, DC from January 11 - 15, has attracted over 7,000 transportation professionals from industry, academia, media, and governments from around the world for information exchange through 1,600 presentations in over 450 seminars, 200 committee meetings, and in specialty workshops. Nearly 200 DOT personnel from across the Department are delivering remarks, leading workshops, participating in Executive Committee meetings, and staffing information booths. The Deputy Secretary joined Dr. John Gibbons of OSTP on January 12 on a panel presenting the accomplishments of the National Science and Technology Council, related public/private partnerships, and the Garrett

A. Morgan program.

Ice Storm in New England and Canada: RSPA is monitoring the aftermath of an ice storm which struck New England and Canada on January 7. The storm affected Northern portions of NY, VT, NH, ME, and the Province of Quebec, Canada. Although no major transportation systems have been seriously affected, both the U.S. Coast Guard and the St. Lawrence Seaway Corporation have responded to local official requests and supplied portable generators, vehicles and transportation, water pumps, and rescue equipment. In some instances, DOT employees are assisting with the operation of the equipment. Rail transportation has reported no major rail closures, although one minor line, the Syracuse-Massena, is out due to debris on the tracks. RSPA and FHWA have also assisted Transport Canada in obtaining Federal and State highway waivers for the movement of replacement telephone and power poles from Alabama to Canada, as well as supporting the transportation of large capacity generators from Florida to Canada.

Deputy Secretary Addresses Students: On January 12, Deputy Secretary Mortimer Downey delivered remarks and presented awards at the annual reception and dinner honoring the Council University Transportation Centers Student of the Year. Fourteen students have been selected by each of the 14 individual Centers on the basis of scholarship and contribution to transportation research.

DOT Preparations for Papal Visit to Cuba: The Cuban-American exile group Movimiento Democracia (MD) is planning a protest flotilla during the Popes

visit to Cuba from January 21-25. The group's leader, Ramon Sanchez, has stated that up to 30 boats will leave Marathon, FL and proceed to the limit of the Cuban 12 mile territorial sea where they will hold a demonstration. The demonstration will include a memorial service and a laser light show. Mr. Sanchez has also stated that he and a small group of MD members will attempt to land on Cuban soil, though he has not said by what means (boat or aircraft). The Coast Guard is working closely with U. S. interagency representatives on a response plan. In addition, the FAA will increase surveillance coinciding with the Pope's planned visit. Miami Archbishop John C. Favalora has stated that the archdiocese is chartering an aircraft that will carry 180 people to Cuba. To date, no contracting airline has been named.

Georgia 400 Project: The department has been working with EPA and CEQ to resolve disputes limited to EPA concerns about the air quality impacts of the Georgia 400 project and conformity for the Atlanta MPO. Action must be completed before January 17, when transportation implementation plan lapses and no new projects may be approved until a new conforming plan is adopted.

Route 710 Update: The Executive Committee of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) recommended the establishment of a panel to decide whether the project should be referred to the CEQ. In addition, the Committee requested that the decision deadline be extended from January 9 until 13 March.

Amtrak Derailment Averted: On January 6, acting on a call from a private

citizen, an FRA inspector had Union Pacific Railroad stop all traffic on their tracks in the Houston, TX area. A derailment of an Amtrak train was averted when the train stopped 10 yards from the washout. The Amtrak train was comprised of 2 locomotives and 10 cars with 125 passengers on board.

Boeing 737 Horizontal Stabilizer Inspection: On January 8, the FAA issued an airworthiness directive (AD) for the immediate inspection of horizontal stabilizers of all Boeing 737-300,-400,-500 series models built after September 20, 1995. Each operator must examine the leading edge for missing fasteners, remove control surface hinge covers, and verify that all hinge fitting bolts are properly installed. This action applies to a total of 211 aircraft--of which 68 are U.S. registered aircraft requiring approximately one labor hour per aircraft. All 68 U.S. registered Boeing aircraft were inspected by noon on January 12. Four problems were noted: one missing screw on leading edge fairing of a Southwest Airlines aircraft; one loose nut on hinge fitting of a Southwest Airlines aircraft; and four missing screws on leading edge fairing of a Continental Airlines aircraft. The remaining 143 aircraft are non-U.S. registered. All countries received the AD, but they are not required to report the results of their inspections back to us. We are slowly getting some information from several countries. The issuance of this AD was a precautionary measure prompted by preliminary data from a Boeing 737-300 accident in Indonesia on December 19 wherein the investigative team notified the FAA that a number of fasteners and a hinge bolt in one of the stabilizers might have been missing before the aircraft crashed.

FAA Special Quality Team to Inspect Boeing: On January 12, after ordering checks on some Boeing aircraft, FAA sent a special quality inspection team to Boeing to review Boeing's quality assurance program. This action was undertaken as part of our oversight responsibilities.

United Flight 965 Incident in London: On January 9, a United Airlines B767 diverted into London's Heathrow Airport and evacuated via the escape slides after experiencing smoke in the cabin. Damage to the aircraft was light and five persons suffered minor injuries in the evacuation. The flight had originally departed Zurich for Washington Dulles Airport. NTSB and FAA are assisting in the British investigation.

UPS Pilot Talks: On January 14, UPS resumed talks with its pilots. The two sides are divided over pay issues.

Embraer Model System: On December 11, the FAA issued an airworthiness directive (AD) that requires the revision of all Embraer EMB-120 Airplane Flight Manuals within 30 days of the AD effective date (January 23), to include requirements for activation of the ice protection systems and to add information regarding operation in icing conditions. The AD also requires the installation of an ice detector system, on all EMB-120 airplanes, within 10 months after the AD effective date.

Special Federal Aviation Regulation (SFAR) 73: On December 31, the FAA issued Special Federal Aviation Regulation (SFAR) 73, the subject of which was Robinson R22/R44 Helicopter Special Training and Experience Requirements. This action extends SFAR 73 to continue special awareness

ground training, and additional flight experience requirements for pilots operating the Robinson R22 or R44 helicopters. The intended effect of this action is to continue to increase the awareness of the operating characteristics of these helicopters during low G and low rotor revolutions-per-minute (RPM) flight operations, and to continue to improve the timeliness of pilot response to emergency conditions through training. The SFAR will remain in effect until December 31, 2002.

Joint FAA/OIG Accompanied Commercial Courier Surveillance: On January 5, an interim joint report from the FAA Administrator and the Inspector General to the Secretary outlined the results of surveillance of air couriers security procedures at Miami and New York airports. Substantial compliance difficulties were reported. Similar joint FAA-OIG surveillance of air couriers is being conducted at Miami, New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles.

United Airlines Begins Beta Testing Of Computer-Assisted Passenger Screening (CAPS) System: On January 6, United Airlines implemented its CAPS system at Newark International Airport to determine the impact on its APOLLO reservation system and on its passenger check-in operations. On January 9, United reported that CAPS is working well and is transparent to passengers.

National Aviation Safety Inspection Program (NASIP) review of AirTran (formerly ValuJet): From October 20-November 7, the FAA conducted a NASIP review on AirTran as part of an inspection of all carriers in operation less than five years. FAA is currently in the process of reviewing and

editing the draft report prepared by our inspectors which is expected to be released in late January.

Georgia's Proposed Airport Development Program: The Georgia Department of Transportation informed us that Governor Zell Miller, with support from the State Democratic Leadership, will propose to the State Legislation that it appropriate \$35 million for economic development from surplus FY-98 funds. The money would be used to provide a 5,500-foot runway, with parallel taxiway and precision nav aids in various communities throughout the State. Airports outside of the Atlanta metropolitan area would be eligible for 75 percent state funding for this development. Georgia normally provides less than \$2 million for airport development.

Coast Guard-Interagency Forces Seize 6,300 lbs of Cocaine: On January 10, 6,393 lbs of cocaine was seized when it was found on the U. S. tug COSHECTON, a former U. S. Navy vessel. The tug was originally detected by Navy patrol aircraft and boarded by the Cutter CAMPBELL. Other cutters escorted the tug to Key West where the Coast Guard, FBI, Customs and Florida authorities found the cocaine in a hidden compartment.

Partially Sunken Vessel Ruptures Pipeline: On January 6, the partially submerged tow vessel STONE FUELER struck a 12 Chevron pipeline near Fourchon, LA (about 50 miles South of New Orleans). An estimated 31,000 gallons of crude oil was spilled before the pipeline was shut down. The Coast Guard Gulf Strike Team and other units continue to monitor the cleanup. Thus far, no oil has impacted the shoreline or injured waterfowl. The cause of the accident is under investigation.

Ride Like A Pro 1998 -- Super Bowl XXXII: This year marks NHTSA's 5th anniversary of working with the National Football League to provide community bicycle traffic safety awareness as part of pre- Super Bowl activities. San Diego County school children will learn the benefits of wearing bicycle helmets and have the opportunity to practice safe riding skills in a bicycle rodeo coordinated by local volunteers. Ride Like A Pro events have effectively reached more than 2,000 school age children across the country. Under development at NHTSA is a Ride Like A Pro Instructors Guide. The guide will help communities reduce bicycle traffic injuries and crashes among youth with similar events throughout the United States.

SEPTA Bias Trial Begins: The Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) is being sued in a class action lawsuit in which the proceedings began January 7 in the U. S. District Court. The plaintiffs are five women who are alleging that SEPTA's running test violates federal civil rights law by discriminating against female applicants for the SEPTA police force. Since the test's inception in 1991, all SEPTA Police Officers must be successful in meeting the "running requirement" in which eighty-eight percent of all women have been rejected as compared to forty-one percent of men for failure to succeed to run 1.5 miles in less than 12 minutes. The five women all failed the running requirements.

La Guardia Slot Decision Update: The City of New York has filed a petition for review in the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit seeking review of the Department's determination to award 21

additional slots for takeoffs and landings at La Guardia airport to Frontier Airlines, AirTran Airways and ValuJet (since merged into Airtran). The City has indicated in press releases that it will be challenging the Department's decision on safety and environmental grounds. Pursuant to an order issued by the Court, the City's brief is due to be filed on February 6, and our brief will be due on March 16. Oral argument could take place as early as the first week in April. At a prehearing conference held last week the Department of Justice expressed the view that there is little prospect of settling the case.

Emergency Relief Funding Update

Guam: FHWA has received Guams request for emergency relief funds for repairing damage to Federal-aid highways caused by Typhoon Paka in December 1997. Total estimated cost of the damage is \$12 million.

New Jersey: FHWA has received New Jerseys request for emergency relief funds for repairing damage to Federal-aid highways caused by flooding during August 1997. Total estimated cost of the damage is \$2.8 million.

Open Skies Progress: On January 5, Secretary Slater announced that in 1997, the United State achieved Open Skies agreements with 15 countries, more than in all previous years combined. The Secretary said the accelerated movement toward achieving open-market aviation agreements in 1997 has put the Department on track toward making Open Skies the worldwide standard.

Aviation Bilateral Negotiations/Discussions Update

Mexico: The Department has exchanged notes with the Government of Mexico implementing, on a provisional basis pending Mexican ratification, aviation agreements reached in September of 1996. These agreements establish double designation for combination services, and the streamlining of charter application procedures, for properly licensed airlines operating individual charter flights.

Japan: Aviation talks took place December 15-18, in Tokyo, aimed at resolving a number of longstanding issues, liberalization, and opening up substantial new opportunities. Although the talks were productive, several issues remain to be resolved. The two sides agreed to resume the talks in Washington, January 20-22.

Peru: Aviation negotiations with Peru are scheduled for March 3-5 in Washington. Our objective for these talks is to expand air services between the U.S. and Peru, preferably through conclusion of an "Open-Skies" agreement.

Portugal: On January 13, the U.S. and Portugal met in Washington to discuss an open skies agreement between the two countries.

WORK ON PRESIDENTIAL POLICY PRIORITIES

VOLUNTEERISM - EDUCATION

Participation in National Groundhog Shadow Day: On February 2, as part of National Groundhog Shadow Day, department employees nation-wide will be casting shadows for students. In Washington, DC at least 200 employees will provide hands-on career exploration for students from schools in the Prince Georges County School-to-Work pilot program, as well as from DOTs Adopted Schools in the District of Columbia. The students will meet with Secretary Slater when they first arrive and then spend time with their mentor learning about transportation careers. During their day, they will also be given tours of the Crisis Management Center, the FAA and US Coast Guard Operations Centers or the Intelligent Transportation Systems Room.

Region III University Transportation Center Students to Visit DOT: On January 13, Students from DOT's University Transportation Center, headquartered at the University of Tennessee, participated with RSPA staff during a series of discussions. Deputy Secretary Mortimer Downey addressed the students, before they were briefed on the creation of effective programs that address safety issues, disaster mitigation programs, and the engineering and technology aspects of the Hazardous Materials Program. The students, both graduate and undergraduate, were in Washington to attend the annual TRB meeting, and all of them are involved in research and education projects under the Center's theme of transportation safety.

FRAUD AWARENESS AND INVESTIGATIVE RESULTS

Skyway Airlines Inspector Sentenced: January 5, John Ivan McCulley,

former chief maintenance inspector for Skyway Airlines, was sentenced to an 18-month term, 3 years probation and a \$1,000 fine. He had pleaded guilty to a conspiracy to defraud charge, admitting he approved installation and use of unapproved bearings in aircraft starter generators and conspired to falsify related records.

Aviation Parts Distributor Starts Four-Year Term: Jose Mendiola, owner of J.L.M. Aviation International Inc., was slated January 5 to begin a 4-year term in federal prison in an unapproved parts case. Mendiola and the firm were sentenced to the imprisonment, 5 years probation, \$145,000 in fines and \$51,033 in restitution a year ago. DOT/OIG is monitoring disposal of the firms parts inventory.

Retrial Begins in Fraud Case: Retrial starts this week in U.S. District Court in Baltimore for Electronic Fasteners, Inc., of Sanford, FL. and its president, Wayne Mason. The firm and proprietor were indicted in 1996 on mail fraud charges. It is alleged the defendants supplied substandard fasteners to customers who were federal government contractors. A first trial ended in mistrial last May.

WORKFORCE OPPORTUNITIES

Diversity in Recruitment Resources Improvements: RSPA has developed a Diversity Recruitment Resources Kit which will be used in future recruitment practices by RSPA managers and supervisors. This kit is designed to provide sources of information to facilitate a pro-active approach to recruitment for RSPA vacancies at all levels within the

organization. The kit will provide specific information on sources for potential candidates; outreach activities; EEO policy statements; and suggested readings on the topic of diversity.

Railroad Culture: On January 12, FRA facilitated a meeting with representatives of railroad management and rail labor to devise strategies for fundamentally changing the railroad culture to one where open, harmonious communication and participation by labor in management decisions are key components of the day-to-day operation of the railroad.

SAFETY

Public Meeting on the Prohibition of Oxidizers Aboard Aircraft: On January 14, RSPA and FAA held a public meeting in Washington, DC, on RSPAs proposed rule to prohibit the transportation of oxidizers in passenger-carrying aircraft and in inaccessible locations on cargo aircraft. The meeting, which was requested by nine associations impacted by the rule, is designed to provide an opportunity for public comment. A final rule is expected by the end of the fiscal year.

NOTABLE CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

ISTEA Developments Reports from Senate staff indicate that there may be a delay in the previously announced schedule for the ISTEA reauthorization bill. At the end of the first session, Majority Leader Lott said that the bill would be one of the first measures to be considered this year. It is possible that the Senate may join the House in waiting for the budget

resolution.

The Deputy Secretary's Schedule

February 16-18

The Deputy Secretary will participate in the G-7 Environmental Futures Conferences in London, England.

February 24 to March 6

The Deputy Secretary will participate in US-Japan meetings in Tokyo, Japan and travel to Singapore and Thailand.

March 11

The Deputy Secretary will participate in the Committee for a Smart New Jersey Conference in New Jersey.

March 19

The Deputy Secretary will participate in the Empire State Reports Innovative Financing Conference in New York City.

March 24

The Deputy Secretary will participate in the Texas Transportation Institute Council Conference in Texas.

Modal Administrators/Assistant Secretaries

January 16-17

SLSDC Acting Administrator Sanders will travel to Ontario, Canada, to participate in trade development meetings, including the annual Marine Club function.

January 20

Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs Hunnicutt will represent the Department in civil aviation negotiations with Japan in Washington, DC.

January 21

NHTSA Administrator Martinez will participate in the Ride Like a Pro bicycle safety event in San Diego, CA.

RSPA Acting Administrator Coyner will chair a stakeholder outreach forum on strategic planning in Washington, DC.

USCG Admiral Kramek will meet with the Chairman of the National Defense Panel and the President of the Navy League.

January 21-22

FAA Administrator Garvey will visit general aviation manufacturers in Wichita, KS.

January 22

RSPA Acting Administrator Coyner will travel to the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center in Cambridge to participate in a Vulnerability Project program review.

FRA Administrator Molitoris will be the keynote speaker at a Federal Bar Association meeting in Washington, DC.

January 26

USCG Admiral Kramek will attend the Reserve Officers Association Mid-Winter Conference in Washington.

January 27

RSPA Acting Administrator Coyner will chair a meeting with Prince Georges County Public Schools and Department of Labor officials to discuss the Prince Georges County School-to-Work Plan.

FTA Administrator Linton will address the Board of Directors of the Orange County Transportation Authority in Orange County, CA.

FRA Administrator Molitoris will participate in the Railroad Safety Advisory Council meeting conducted in Washington, DC.

January 27-28

SLSDC Acting Administrator Sanders will travel to Cleveland, OH, to participate in a meeting on vessel inspections with Associate Administrator Cocci and USCG representatives.

January 28

Inspector General Mead will address the Air Traffic Controllers Association.

USCG Admiral Kramek will meet with General Wilhelm, the Southern Command Commander in Chief.

January 28-30

FAA Administrator Garvey will visit Boeing Aircraft and meet with local FAA officials in Seattle, WA.

January 29

USCG Admiral Kramek will attend a meeting with the President, the Secretary of Defense, JCS Chairman, Service Chiefs, and CinCs. Admiral Kramek will also attend a dinner at the White House with service chiefs and senior military commanders.

SLSDC Acting Administrator Sanders is scheduled to make a conference presentation on the SLSDC PBO initiative at the Dulles Airport Hilton.

January 29-30

Inspector General Mead will meet with Julian Burk, CEO of LA Counties Metropolitan Transportation Authority in Los Angeles, CA.

January 30

NHTSA Administrator Martinez will be the recipient of the Philip L. Lance Award for Public Awareness of Brain Injury in Charlotte, NC.

January 31

USCG Admiral Kramek will attend the 85th Annual Dinner of the ALFALFA

Club.

February 2

USCG Admiral Kramek will address the Naval War College in Newport, RI.

February 5

USCG Admiral Kramek will attend the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington.

February 6

RSPA Acting Administrator Coyner will speak at the Colorado Transportation Communitys 17th Annual Transportation Forum, Operation Stimulus - From Mule Train to Supply Chain in Denver, CO.

Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy Lieber will preside at a public meeting in Seattle regarding additional marine safety actions in the Puget Sound area.

February 9

RSPA Acting Administrator Coyner will address the National School-to-Work grantee meeting on the Garrett A. Morgan Technology and Transportation Futures Program in Washington, DC.

NHTSA Administrator Martinez will participate in the Network of Champions/NASCAR event in Daytona Beach, FL.

February 9-10

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May 25-28

USCG Admiral Kramek will host the Flag/SES meeting in Washington.

May 29

Change of command for the Commandant, USCG in Washington, D.C.

MEDIA INQUIRIES

The Wall Street Journal is researching an article on air traffic modernization. FAA Administrator Garvey was interviewed. Publication date not known.

NHTSA, January 7, received inquiries about the "cell phone safety report" from major media including USA Today, AP, CBS, ABC, CNN and NBC Radio, The Washington Post, and The Chicago Tribune. ABC Good Morning America

interviewed NHTSA Administrator Martinez.

All major media aired stories January 7 or 8 about the FAA AD following the NTSB's investigation of the recent Silk Air crash that indicates that screws and bolts were missing from the tail section. FAA Administrator Garvey appeared on Good Morning America January 9. She said the FAA is sending a special team to Wichita, Kansas, where the assembly is done to review the process.

CBS Evening News Eye on America, January 7, aired a segment about the safety of Chrysler's minivan and questions about the van's hatch, reporting that Chrysler may have influenced NHTSA during its investigation. NHTSA Deputy Administrator Phil Recht was interviewed.

NBC Today Show, January 8, aired a segment about child safety seats for commercial aircraft.

FOIA REQUESTS

Report of December 1-12 inspection of Hageland Aviation -- Arctic Sounder

Specific civil penalty letters USA Today

Airport Certification/Safety Inspection Checklist, aircraft rescue and firefighting (ARFF) Training Checklists from 1990 to present, and all civil penalty and enforcement letters pertaining to emergency preparedness for O'Hare International, Midway, Meigs, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Detroit Metro, Logan International, Hartford International, Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, Provincetown, Portland, and Bangor airports USA Today

Flight tracks and material on the navigation aid VOR--involved in the disappearance of a Learjet during an approach Lebanon Municipal Airport, December 24, 1996 The Hartford Courant

Final report of a National Air Safety Inspection Program of ValuJet Airlines conducted in October and November 1997 Atlanta Journal Constitution

Photocopies of all memorandum, reports, studies, correspondence or other documents from January 1, 1990, pertaining to foreign pilots and/or air traffic controllers use and/or understanding of the English language and its potential affect on safety p Inside Edition

Transcripts and/or recorded conversations between occupants of a Cessna 414 and air traffic control personnel, other civilian or military aircraft crew, and any other aviation personnel on December 29, 1997 p Philadelphia Inquirer

Point of Contact: For the weekend of January 17-19, Michael Huerta will be the contact. He can be reached through the FAA Operations Center at (202) 267-3333.

AMPLIFICATION REPORT

AVIATION SAFETY

On January 9, FAA administrator Jane Garvey participated in a live interview on ABC's "Good Morning America" amplifying the President's commitment to air safety. Demonstrating the FAA's quick and aggressive oversight, Garvey announced that the FAA had ordered emergency inspections of 737's and Boeing the morning after NTSB released its findings related to missing parts discovered in the Boeing 737 owned by Indonesian carrier, SilkAir, that crashed last December.

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Cynthia Coogan (CN=Cynthia Coogan/OU=DOT/O=GOV [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:21-JAN-1998 18:27:03.00

SUBJECT: White House Weekly Report for the week of January 26, 1998

TO: Cabinet Affairs (Cabinet Affairs [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

MEMORANDUM FOR ERSKINE BOWLES, THE WHITE HOUSE January 21, 1998

FROM: Secretary Slater

SUBJECT: DOT Weekly Report -- Week of January 26, 1998

The following is the Department of Transportation Weekly Report:

KEY DEPARTMENT NEWS

Airport Grant Announcements: On January 13, Vice President Gore announced the award of a \$19 million grant to the city of Philadelphia for airport expansion. On January 16, Secretary Slater announced the award of \$159,300 for improvements at Owensboro-Daviess County Airport in Owensboro, KY. He also announced the award of \$63,150 for improvements at Muskegon County Airport, Muskegon, MI.

Secretary to meet Rail Association: On January 23, Secretary Slater, Deputy Secretary Downey and FRA Administrator Molitoris will meet with the Association of American Railroads Board in Washington, DC to discuss the Secretarys Rail Safety agenda and other issues of interest to the Board.

Secretary Addresses U.S. Conference of Mayors: On January 28, Secretary Slater will address the U.S. Conference of Mayors Africa Summit and on January 29, he will be the keynote at the U.S. Conference of Mayors Plenary Luncheon in Washington, DC.

Secretary Addresses AFL-CIO: On January 29, Secretary Slater will address the AFL-CIO Executive Council Meeting in Washington, DC.

Secretary Addresses ABA: On January 30, Secretary Slater will address the ABA Forum on Air & Space Laws Annual Update Conference in Washington, DC.

Papal Visit to Cuba: During the Popes forthcoming visit to Cuba from January 21-25, the FAA and Coast Guard air and surface forces will monitor the planned protest flotilla and air demonstration by the Cuban-American exile group Movimiento Democracia (MD). The groups leader, Ramon Sanchez, has stated that up to 30 boats will leave Marathon, FL and proceed to the limit of the Cuban 12 mile territorial sea where they will hold a demonstration. The demonstration will include a memorial service and a laser light show. Mr. Sanchez has also stated that he and a small group of MD members will attempt to land on Cuban soil, though he has not said by what means (boat or aircraft). DOD resources are supporting the Coast Guard for the operation.

Settlement of Atlanta Dispute: On January 16, Secretary Slater and EPA Administrator Carol Browner announced a compromise settlement of disputes over pending projects in the Atlanta region. The settlement allowed

approvals for three disputed projects, while two other projects - Georgia 400 and the Douglas Boulevard extension in Douglas County - were approved only for planning and design, with construction to be withheld until the region has a TIP consistent with Federal air quality standards approved by DOT. The region has committed to submitting a conforming TIP within 18 months.

Haiti Airport Update: From January 5-8, a team of FAA security specialists conducted a final security assessment of the Port au Prince International Airport. Next steps and further actions are being coordinated with the NSC and DOS.

FAA Year 2000 Briefing: On January 22, the FAA will hold background briefing for reporters on the Year 2000 effort. FAA has created a facility known as the War Room where all their air traffic control (ATC) computer equipment is reviewed to ensure that a smooth transition to the year 2000 is made as far as the ATC system is concerned.

Air Bag On-Off Switches: Beginning January 19, auto dealers and repair shops can install air bag on-off switches for consumers with an authorization letter from NHTSA. On November 18, 1997 NHTSA issued a final rule allowing the installation of such switches to provide a means of reducing the risk of serious or fatal injury that some current-design air bags pose to certain groups of people due to their extreme proximity to these systems when they deploy. This rulemaking was part of NHTSAs comprehensive plan, announced in November 1996, to reduce air bag risks, while preserving their benefits. With effective education efforts to

inform the public that these switches are appropriate for only a small proportion of the population, demand for switch installation approvals from NHTSA has been modest: only about 8,000 requests have been received since the final rule was announced. Currently, there are more than 69 million vehicles on the road equipped with air bags. Recent media reports indicate a possibility in a shortage of garages and dealerships willing to do the procedure.

State Farm sues Ford: On January 20, State Farm Mutual Automobile Company and its affiliates filed a complaint in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California against Ford Motor Company and one of its suppliers, United Technologies Automotive, Inc. The Complaint alleges that Ford was slow in alerting the public and NHTSA to a defect in the design of an ignition switch supplied by United Technologies. The defect produces an electrical short that can melt plastic components in the steering column and result in a vehicle fire. The switch was installed in some 26 million Ford vehicles manufactured from 1983 through 1993. As a result of NHTSA's investigation of this defect, Ford recalled some 7.9 million of these vehicles in April 1996. State Farm alleges that this recall was not sufficiently extensive and should have been implemented much earlier to reduce the number of claims it has paid relating to the ignition fires.

Interagency GPS Executive Board (IGEB): On January 13, the IGEB, chaired by Deputy Secretary Downey, met on crucial issues surrounding GPS second civil frequency planning and GPS modernization. The IGEB approved convening of a special steering group to identify a second coded civil GPS

signal by the end of March.

Aircraft Certification Systems Evaluation Program (ACSEP): A special ACSEP evaluation is being conducted at Boeings Wichita, KS and Renton, WA facilities with focus on horizontal stabilizer assembly operations. This is a precautionary measure based on initial reports from a Boeing 737-300 SilkAir accident in Indonesia. Preliminary findings from the ACSEP evaluation should be available to the FAA within the next week.

Forces Disrupt Marijuana Airdrop: On January 12, an Operations Bahamas and Turks aircraft observed a small airplane conduct an airdrop to a fishing boat in the Bahamas. The Cutter CHANDELEUR, and aircraft from the Coast Guard, Customs Service, and U.S. Army intercepted the traffickers.

A subsequent search of the drop area by OPBAT forces revealed nine abandoned marijuana bales (675 pounds) which were seized and destroyed.

Coast Guard, Customs, and Florida Marine Patrol (FMP) Arrest Marijuana

Traffickers: On January 12, an FMP patrol boat located a suspicious fast boat in the Florida Keys. Boats from Coast Guard, FMP, and Customs Service joined the pursuit. The 2 suspects aboard the fast boat jettisoned their cargo of marijuana, set the vessel on fire, and jumped overboard.

The suspects were rescued and arrested by FMP. A search of the area revealed 896 pounds of marijuana.

Migrant Interdictions: On January 13, a Coast Guard aircraft spotted an overloaded boat near Puerto Rico. The Cutter FORWARD picked up 145 Dominican migrants and turned them over to the U. S. Border Patrol in Puerto Rico. On January 14, 28 Dominicans were found on Mona Island, near

Puerto Rico. The Cutter BAINBRIDGE ISLAND picked up the migrants and repatriated them to the Dominican Republic. On January 15, 15 Cubans were found on a boat near the Bahamas and picked up by the Cutter PADRE. The migrants will be transferred to Bahamian authorities.

No-Zone PSA: On January 27, Karl Malone, the 1997 NBAs Most Valuable Player, will film a PSA for FHWA's No-Zone Campaign. This program seeks to educate the driving public about blind spots (no-zones) around trucks.

Mr. Malone once owned a trucking company and was a truck driver and has a personal interest in highway safety. In addition, Deputy Administrator Gloria Jeff will tape an interview with Mr. Malone on highway safety issues.

Two-Way End-of-Train Device Regulation Published: On January 16, FRA published in the Federal Register a NPRM that assures continued safety on Amtrak by addressing the need for two-way end-of-train devices when operating trains comprised of passenger and non-passenger equipment. There will be a comment period of 15 days. If no substantive comments are received, the rule may be issued as a final rule upon publication.

LACMTA Suspends Work on Three Rail Projects: On January 14, the Board of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) voted 10-3 to suspend construction for at least six months on the locally-funded Pasadena Blue Line and the federally-funded Metro Red Line's Mid-City and East Side Extensions. Work on the North Hollywood Extension is unaffected by the Board's actions and will continue with a

projected revenue operations date of 2000. The Board also authorized the CEO to implement a demobilization plan for each of the three rail projects. The respective demobilization budgets are as follows: Pasadena Blue Line - \$13.3 million; Mid-City Extension - \$1.96 million and the East Side Extension - \$13.0 million. On January 12, Julian Burke, Interim Chief Executive Officer of LACMTA, announced the appointment of Sharon Landers as Deputy CEO. Ms. Landers will share responsibilities within the Office of the CEO with incumbent Deputy CEO Allan Lipsky. This decision has generated heavy media and Congressional interest, especially among certain members of the California delegation.

One Year Report on Status of White House Commission: The Secretary must report to the President by February 12, of the status of the implementation of the recommendations of the White House Commission on Aviation Safety and Security. The Department is currently working on a number of regulatory matters which the Commission recommended, including final rules on smoke detection and fire suppression in cargo holds and enhanced international passenger manifests, as well as on the drafting of the report.

Supreme Court to Review Death on the High Seas Act Case: Last week, the Supreme Court granted certiorari review in *Dooley v. Korean Air Lines Co.*, which raises the issue of whether the Death on the High Seas Act (DOHSA), when applicable, provides an exclusive remedy, or whether a court can also apply general maritime law in such circumstances. The case involves the crash of KAL flight 007 and claims for certain non-pecuniary losses suffered by a class of surviving relatives.

Briefing Schedule Set in Adarand Litigation: The Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit has now set a schedule for the rest of the briefs in Adarand v. Slater and Adarand v. Romer, two cases that have resulted from the Supreme Court's decision questioning the constitutionality of the Department's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program and remanding that issue to the Colorado district court. The Court has now ordered that Adarand's briefs are to be filed on January 23, and the government's reply briefs are due on February 6.

Air Service Roundtable: Discussions with local, state, and airline officials from the Eastern and Central U.S. will be held January 21 and 22 in Jackson, MS. Topics to be covered include high air fares, a lack of service, and lack of competition. Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott will be in attendance and DOT will be represented by Deputy Assistant Secretary Patrick V. Murphy.

Aviation Bilateral Negotiations/Discussions Update

Portugal: "Open-Skies" aviation consultations were held in Washington on January 13-14. Progress was made in clarifying issues of concern to Portugal, including U.S. policy relating to the grant of antitrust immunity to carrier alliances and U.S. policy relating to "ownership and control," and its possible effect on the planned 49 percent privatization of TAP Portuguese Airlines. At Portuguese request, the two sides also discussed a possible phase-in of rights for U.S. carriers to operate beyond Portugal to Africa and Brazil.

Japan: From January 20-22, aviation negotiations resumed in Washington aimed at reaching an agreement that would resolve longstanding disputes and open up opportunities for new services.

Mexico: An informal meeting with Mexico regarding codesharing issues is scheduled for January 23 in Mexico City. The objective is to convince Mexico that the benefits codesharing offers Mexican airlines warrant amending our agreement to remove limitations on designations that currently restrict codesharing arrangements.

Dominican Republic: Civil aviation negotiations between the U.S. and the Dominican Republic are scheduled to be held February 3, in Santo Domingo. The purpose of the talks is to conclude an "Open-Skies" aviation agreement.

France: Negotiations with France are scheduled for February 25-27, in Paris, to reestablish a formal U.S.-France aviation agreement, which would replace the current comity and reciprocity regime.

WORK ON PRESIDENTIAL POLICY PRIORITIES

VOLUNTEERISM - EDUCATION

RSPA Acting Administrator to Visit With Students: On January 26, RSPA Acting Administrator Kelley S. Coyner will visit a Prince Georges County School to talk with students about careers in transportation. The visit

will be to Shadyside Elementary School in preparation for National Groundhog Shadow Day. Ms. Coyner will engage the students in discussions about DOT functions in order to enrich the time they will spend with their Shadow Day sponsors.

CG Supports America Reads: Dozens of Coast Guard personnel in the Eastern Massachusetts area pitched in from January 8-12 to help school children expand their horizons through reading. In conjunction with the Department of Education, Coast Guard personnel from the First Coast Guard District in Boston devoted their time to collecting and distributing books for needy schools. The many volunteer Coast Guard military and civilian employees collected and prepared 250,000 books for distribution. This is the second year that Coast Guard personnel in this area have participated in the program.

Participation in National Groundhog Shadow Day: On February 2, as part of National Groundhog Shadow Day, DOT employees nation-wide will be casting shadows for students. In Washington, DC, approximately 300 employees will provide hands-on career exploration for students from schools in the Prince Georges County School-to-Work pilot program, as well as from DOTs Adopted Schools in the District of Columbia.

The students will meet with Secretary Slater when they first arrive and then spend time with their mentor learning about transportation careers. During their day, they will also be given tours of the Crisis Management Center, the FAA and US Coast Guard Operations Centers or the Intelligent Transportation Systems Room.

FRAUD AWARENESS AND INVESTIGATIVE RESULTS

Odometer Fraud Convictions: On January 13, the U.S. District Court in the District of Colorado sentenced Robert E. Fite, owner of Zipper Motors located in Englewood, Colorado, to 30 months incarceration. Mr. Fite was also ordered to pay \$110,000 in restitution. He had previously pled guilty to two counts of odometer fraud and one count of interstate transportation of fraudulent securities. Mr. Fite admitted to altering the odometers and titles on more than 110 vehicles. This conviction resulted from of an odometer fraud investigation conducted by NHTSA's Odometer Fraud Staff.

OIG Agents Arrest Business Owner for Defrauding TASC: On January 14, OIG special agents arrested a Washington, DC company owner conducting business with the Transportation Administrative Service Center (TASC). According to the complaint, the proprietor was arrested for Access Device Fraud because after obtaining the number of a DOT Impac card for a legitimate transaction with TASC, he used that number during December 1997 and January 1998 to obtain approximately \$9,000 in merchandise from a private vendor. After the arrest, OIG learned the owner was also the subject of two outstanding arrest warrants. Further judicial proceedings will take place in United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

Montana Suspends Business for Motor Fuels Tax Fraud: On January 14, 1998 the Montana Department of Transportation issued a notice of suspension to Robert Zimmerman, doing business as INOCO, Inc., for having committed

criminal offenses under Montana and Federal laws by avoiding, failing to timely pay, or refusing to timely pay required Federal and Montana fuel taxes, as well as other state criminal offenses. This suspension was the result of an ongoing joint task force investigation by the OIG with the IRS and Montana Department of Transportation concerning motor fuels excise tax evasion.

Minnesota Highway Construction Company Owner Jailed for Payroll Fraud: On January 5, in U.S. District Court for Minnesota, the owner of Sunram Construction, Inc. was sentenced to four months in prison and fined \$20,000 for falsifying payroll forms submitted to the State of Minnesota. The owner also was ordered to pay \$20,179 in restitution, and the company was ordered to pay a \$64,000 fine and pay more than \$20,000 in restitution to the defrauded employees.

FAA Certified Repair Station Loses Licenses for Illegal Aviation Parts Repairs: As a result of a joint OIG and FBI investigation, on January 8, a criminal information was filed in U. S. District Court, Western District of Texas in Austin, charging Flight Director, Inc. (FDI) with four counts of failing to make a report to the FAA. A plea agreement was also filed on this same date wherein FDI agreed to plead guilty to the information. FDI admitted it made unauthorized and illegal repairs to avionics equipment, (Automatic Directive Finders), and sold them in the open market as serviceable parts. FDI has agreed, as part of its plea, not to seek certification from the FAA as a Part 145 repair station for 5 years from the date of the plea. Sentencing has not yet been scheduled.

NOTABLE CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Budget Update: The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee members have expressed concern with the proposed language issued by OMB regarding transportation spending scoring. This issue is generating a great deal of interest among transportation constituency groups and stakeholders.

House Appropriations Hearings: The House has scheduled all of DOTs appropriations hearings and they are as follows: The Secretary - March 3; Federal Highway Administration and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration - March 4; Coast Guard - March 5; Federal Aviation Administration - March 10; Federal Railroad Administration - March 11 and Federal Transit Administration - March 12.

ISTEA Developments: It appears that no firm decision has been made yet on when the Senate will return to consideration of ISTEA reauthorization legislation. Majority Leader Lott and Environment and Public Works Committee Chairman Chafee are reportedly meeting soon to discuss the timing of the bill. Budget Committee Chairman Domenici's staff has suggested that the bill may be delayed until the budget resolution is finalized. There are sharp differences over spending levels, formulas and other contentious issues that may require weeks of debate to resolve. Senate staff continue to request technical assistance from the Department in analyzing some of the 200-plus amendments that have been filed. Meanwhile, a Donor State Summit was held January 12-13 in Washington to focus on formulas and equity-related issues.

The Deputy Secretary's Schedule

February 16-18

The Deputy Secretary will participate in the G-7 Environmental Futures Conferences in London, England.

February 24 to March 6

The Deputy Secretary will participate in US-Japan meetings in Tokyo, Japan and travel to Singapore and Thailand.

March 11

The Deputy Secretary will participate in the Committee for a Smart New Jersey Conference in Princeton, New Jersey.

March 19

The Deputy Secretary will participate in the Empire State Reports' Annual Conference in New York.

March 24

The Deputy Secretary will participate in the Texas Transportation Institute Council Conference in Texas.

Modal Administrators/Assistant Secretaries

January 26

USCG Admiral Kramek will attend the Reserve Officers Association

Mid-Winter Conference in Washington.

MARAD Acting Deputy Administrator Bondareff will address the Passenger Vessel Association Annual Convention in Nashville, TN.

RSPA Acting Administrator Coyner will talk to students at Shadyside Elementary School in Prince Georges County about careers in transportation.

January 27

RSPA Acting Administrator Coyner will chair a meeting with Prince Georges County Public Schools and Department of Labor officials to discuss the Prince Georges County School-to-Work Plan.

FTA Administrator Linton will address the Board of Directors of the Orange County Transportation Authority in Orange County, CA.

FRA Administrator Molitoris will participate in the Railroad Safety Advisory Council meeting conducted in Washington, DC.

USCG Admiral Kramek will attend the Presidents State of the Union Address.

January 27-28

SLSDC Acting Administrator Sanders will travel to Cleveland, OH, to participate in a meeting on vessel inspections with Associate Administrator Cocci and USCG representatives.

January 28

Inspector General Mead will address the Air Traffic Controllers Association.

USCG Admiral Kramek will meet with General Wilhelm, the Southern Command Commander in Chief and attend the ROA mid-winter banquet in Washington.

FHWA Deputy Administrator Jeff will speak at the International Trails and Greenways Conference in San Diego, CA.

OST Governmental Affairs Deputy Secretary Horsley will address the Maritime Advantage Intermodal Initiative Executive Forum in New Orleans, LA.

January 28-29

MARAD Acting Administrator Graykowski will address the Maritime Advantage Intermodal Initiative in New Orleans, LA.

January 28-30

FAA Administrator Garvey will visit Boeing Aircraft and meet with local FAA officials in Seattle, WA.

January 29

USCG Admiral Kramek will attend a meeting with the President, the Secretary of Defense, JCS Chairman, Service Chiefs, and CinCs. Admiral Kramek will also attend a dinner at the White House with service chiefs and senior military commanders.

SLSDC Acting Administrator Sanders is scheduled to make a conference presentation on the SLSDC PBO initiative at the Dulles Airport Hilton in Herndon, VA.

Inspector General Mead will meet with Julian Burke, CEO of LA Countys Metropolitan Transportation Authority in Los Angeles, CA.

OST Governmental Affairs Deputy Assistant Secretary Horsley will address the National Transportation Enhancements Managers Meeting, in conjunction with the Rails-to-Trails Conservancys First International Trails and Greenways Conference in San Diego, CA.

January 29-30

Inspector General Mead will meet with Julian Burke, CEO of LA Counties Metropolitan Transportation Authority in Los Angeles, CA.

January 30

NHTSA Administrator Martinez will be the recipient of the Philip L. Lance Award for Public Awareness of Brain Injury in Charlotte, NC.

OST General Counsel McFadden will be a panel member at the 1998 American Bar Association Air and Space Law Form Conference.

January 31

USCG Admiral Kramek will attend the 85th Annual Dinner of the ALFALFA Club.

February 2

USCG Admiral Kramek will address the Naval War College in Newport, RI.

February 5

USCG Admiral Kramek will attend the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington.

February 5-6

DOT will hold a senior level retreat in McLean, VA.

February 6

RSPA Acting Administrator Coyner will speak at the Colorado Transportation Communitys 17th Annual Transportation Forum, Operation Stimulus - From Mule Train to Supply Chain in Denver, CO.

Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy Lieber will preside at a public meeting in Seattle regarding additional marine safety actions in the Puget Sound area.

February 9

RSPA Acting Administrator Coyner will address the National School-to-Work grantee meeting on the Garrett A. Morgan Technology and Transportation Futures Program in Washington, DC.

NHTSA Administrator Martinez will participate in the Network of Champions/NASCAR event in Daytona Beach, FL.

February 9-10

FRA Administrator Molitoris will be the keynote speaker at the Regional Moving Kids Safely Conferences in Chicago, IL and Kansas City, MO, respectively.

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NHTSA Deputy Administrator Recht will speak at the Moving Kids Safely Conference on Strengthening Safe Communities in Chicago, IL.

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NHTSA Administrator Martinez will speak at the Moving Kids Safely Conference on Strengthening Safe Communities in Sacramento, CA.

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NHTSA Deputy Administrator Recht will speak at the Moving Kids Safely Conference on Strengthening Safe Communities in Boston, MA.

USCG Admiral Kramek will attend a dinner hosted by the Naval War College in Washington, DC, and receive the NWC Distinguished Alumni Award.

February 13

NHTSA Administrator Martinez will speak at the Moving Kids Safely Conference in Portland, OR.

February 15-17

MARAD Acting Administrator Graykowski will address the 61st Annual International Joint Conference-Lake Carriers Association/Canadian Shipowners Association in Montebello, Quebec.

February 18

USCG Admiral Kramek will host cabinet and law enforcement agency heads for the law enforcement luncheon.

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Inspector General, Ken Mead, will coordinate the upcoming retreat for the Presidents Council on Integrity and Efficiency, and the Executive Council on Integrity and Efficiency.

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USCG Admiral Kramek will brief new flag and general officers in the CAPSTONE program.

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USCG Admiral Kramek will give the State of the Coast Guard address in Washington, DC.

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USCG Admiral Kramek will attend the USO Awards Dinner in Washington.

April 8

USCG Admiral Kramek will attend the Interdiction Committee meeting in Washington, DC.

April 16

USCG Admiral Kramek will give the State of the Coast Guard address in Washington.

RSPA Acting Administrator Coyner will participate in a transportation Round table discussion with MIT at the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center in Cambridge, MA.

April 21

Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs Hunnicutt will address the International Aviation Club on current issues in international aviation in Washington, DC.

April 22

USCG Admiral Kramek will speak at the U.S. Naval Institute Seminar and Meeting.

May 8

USCG Admiral Kramek will officiate at the OCS Graduation in Yorktown, VA.

May 12

USCG Admiral Kramek will attend the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Leadership Development Center in New London, CT.

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USCG Admiral Kramek will attend the Coast Guard Foundation dinner in San Francisco, CA.

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USCG Admiral Kramek will participate in the Graduation Ceremony at the Coast Guard Academy, in New London, CT.

May 25-28

USCG Admiral Kramek will host the Flag/SES meeting in Washington.

May 29

Change of command for the Commandant, USCG in Washington, D.C.

MEDIA INQUIRIES

The Wall Street Journal interviewed Dr. Jon Jordan, the Federal Air Surgeon, January 15, regarding medical kits. A publication date has not been determined.

The Wall Street Journal is pursuing a story about a loan guarantee the Maritime Administration terminated processing for World City Phoenix. MARAD Acting Administrator Graykowski spoke on background. Article is expected as early as next week.

Aviation Week is preparing a special report on the Air Traffic Control system for the February 2 issue. Topics include the current status of ATC

equipment and operations, future plans to enhance safety and increase capacity, and controller personnel issues. Interviews were held this week with senior ATC executives at FAA.

ABC World News Tonight is pursuing a story about the National Driving Simulator now under construction in Iowa. NHTSA Administrator Martinez was interviewed January 15. Story may run as an [It's Your Money](#) segment.

ABC Prime Time Live is pursuing a story on the New Car Assessment program and its effects on improving vehicle safety performance. NHTSA officials are supplying background for the story. ABC has requested an on-camera interview with NHTSA Administrator for the week of January 20, and wants to tape actual crash tests in Wisconsin at the end of the month. Story would run in February.

ABC News interviewed NHTSA Dr. Martinez on January 15 regarding the number of on/off switch authorizations NHTSA has granted. It aired January 19.

American Journal is working on a sport utility vehicle (SUV) crash piece involving size and weight. NHTSA supplied information on two-vehicle crashes involving SUVs. An interview has been requested, but NHTSA is providing a written statement. They expect the piece to run soon, but no set date.

Associated Press is preparing a story for use this week on child booster seats and the problem of rear seat attachment in cars without rear

shoulder belts. NHTSA provided information.

CNN Impact, CNN's Sunday night news magazine, is preparing a story that will say that pupil injuries on school buses have increased 300 percent in the last 20 years, using what NHTSA and the National Safety Council agree are inaccurate statistics. An interview with NHTSA Deputy Administrator Recht was conducted for January 7. The segment will air January 18.

Senator Lautenberg may be featured advocating belts in buses.

The New York Times has requested information on mid-year CAFE performance and NHTSA's budget requests to Congress for a future article.

Newsweek interviewed NHTSA Administrator Martinez prior to his speech at the Automotive World Congress in Detroit, January 12.

The Washington Post will interview a representative of NHTSA's Driver Vehicle Interaction Division on the cellular phone distraction report on January 20.

The FAA released air traffic control tape for TWA 800 January 14.

Approximately 45 reporters attended along with 14 cameras and several radio stations. It received wide coverage on all networks and major media outlets.

FTA Administrator Linton, January 16, was interviewed by NPR and ABC following the Los Angeles Times article about the MTA board's suspension of work on project to get their fiscal house in order. Linton called on

the board to come up with a financially responsible plan for meeting the mobility needs of the region. Linton also talked to regional media.

ABC World News Tonight plans a piece about air bag on-off switches on January 19. That is the first day that automotive service businesses, according to the rule, will be permitted to install air bag on-off switches.

FOIA REQUESTS

Air Traffic Control Tower transmission recording for specified incidents of turbulence p American Journal

Specific civil penalty letters p USA Today

Airport Certification/safety Inspection Checklists, aircraft rescue and firefighting (ARFF) Training Checklists form 1990 to present, and all civil penalty and enforcement letters pertaining to emergency preparedness for Anchorage, Juneau, Fairbanks, Hartsfield, Atlanta Miami International, New Orleans International, Nashville, and Raleigh-Durham airports p USA Today

NASIP study on ValuJet Airlines conducted in October or November 1997 p Associated Press

Records pertaining to trimming problems on the Boeing 737-700 from January 1, 1997 to January 1, 1998 p Business Week

Point of Contact: For the weekend of January 24-25 Michael Huerta will be the contact. He can be reached through the FAA Operations Center at (202) 267-3333.

AMPLIFICATION REPORT

BUDGET/TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

Secretary Slater delivered the keynote address to the Transportation Research Board in Washington on Jan. 14. The Secretary announced that the President plans to propose a 10 percent increase in transportation research spending in the next budget, underscoring the administration's commitment to transportation infrastructure investment. Story ran in regional and trade media, including AP.

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY/COMMUNITY SERVICE

Secretary Slater participated in several MLK day events to amplify the President's message of active citizenship. On Jan. 15, the Secretary spoke at the Social Security Administration in Baltimore and a U.S. Coast Guard facility in Maryland. On Jan. 17, the Secretary traveled to Muskegon, MI to deliver the keynote address at an Urban League event. On Jan. 19, the Secretary traveled with the Vice President to Atlanta where he delivered a tribute to Martin Luther King at the Ebenezer Baptist Church. He also introduced the Vice President at a service event held at a local elementary school. Captured good local and regional media coverage. In Atlanta, set up a live four-minute interview on CNN; the

Secretary amplified the administration's MLK and race initiative messages.