

# FEDERAL NEWS WEEKLY SUMMARY CONTINUED



Texas Instruments; Marlow Industries, Dallas; and Delco Electronics, Kokomo, Ind. It also includes a government technical advisory board composed of representatives from the FAA, the U.S. Coast Guard, the FBI, the Secret Service, the U.S. Army's Night Vision Electronic Sensors Directorate and the Department of Transportation's Research and Special Programs Administration.

—FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION  
11/12/96

## NEW AIRPORT RESCUE AND FIREFIGHTING TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPED

■(WASHINGTON) The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is deploying new technology that helps airport rescue and firefighting crews safely, quickly and effectively respond to emergency situations at night and in adverse weather conditions. The Driver's Enhanced Vision System (DEVS), developed by the FAA's William J. Hughes Technical Center, Atlantic City, NJ, combines satellite navigation, digital data link and infrared technologies with easy-to-use software and onboard displays. The system lets emergency crews see through fog, rain, sleet and snow, as well as through smoke and flames.

Using DEVS, rescue teams immediately get critical information such as the condition of the aircraft, location of passengers and crew, presence and location of spilled or burning fuel and the position of other emergency personnel at the scene.

Boston Logan International Airport is the pilot site for a full DEVS installation. Logan's system, operational since September, includes five mobile rescue vehicles, two in-water rescue boats, two airport management vehicles and one airport security vehicle. A command center contains vehicle tracking and communications installations in the airport tower emergency management center.

The new system uses computer displays driven by a differential Global Positioning

System (GPS), a Geographic Information System and a forward-looking infrared sensor mounted in the vehicle for locating and navigating to emergency sites. A central data and command radio link lets vehicles receive and transmit vital messages.

The FAA can provide up to 90 percent of the purchase cost of new rescue vehicles equipped with DEVS through Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grants.

—FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION  
11/12/96

## RELIGION

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ABROAD ESTABLISHED

■(WASHINGTON) The President welcomed the formation of a Special Advisory Committee to the Secretary of State on Religious Freedom Abroad. This "Advisory Committee," established by Secretary of State Christopher and chaired by Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor John Shattuck, will call attention to problems of religious persecution abroad. It is also expected to provide advice on how to bring about reconciliation in those areas where religious enmity is a threat to peace.

The establishment of the Advisory Committee, which is composed of representatives of the largest American religious groups, together with academic leaders and members of religious groups that have suffered persecution abroad, carries forward the commitment of the United States to advance religious freedom, help those suffering under repression, support the forces of tolerance and advance reconciliation among the many communities of faith.

—THE WHITE HOUSE  
11/13/96

## TRANSPORTATION

### ENHANCED GROUND PROXIMITY WARNING SYSTEM USE BY AMERICAN AIRLINES APPROVED

■(WASHINGTON) The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has approved use of AlliedSignal's enhanced ground proximity warning system (EGPWS) on all American Airlines Boeing 757 aircraft. The FAA Supplemental Type Certificate, issued to AlliedSignal, follows 24 months of engineer-

ing analyses, simulator evaluations and actual flight tests.

The new EGPWS provides a detailed map of the terrain in the vicinity of the aircraft. Using an existing navigation system, such as the Global Positioning System (GPS), the aircraft's position is correlated with a database-driven terrain map which provides the pilot with real time awareness of the aircraft's position. The moving map, which is displayed on a cockpit screen, will aid the pilot in maintaining proper altitude and terrain clearance.

"The enhanced ground proximity warning system is the latest tool for avoiding controlled flight into terrain, typically mountains," said FAA Administrator David R. Hinson. "The approval granted to American Airlines demonstrates this agency's commitment to use new technology to enhance aviation safety."

—FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION  
11/12/96

### REPORT ON OPERATING RESULTS OFTEN LARGEST BUS COMPANIES ISSUED

■(WASHINGTON) The Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) recently issued a report comparing the revenues, earnings, and ridership of ten of the nation's largest intercity and charter bus companies for the quarter ending March 31, 1996, with the same period for 1995.

The report is based primarily upon quarterly reports submitted by the carriers to the Bureau. These ten companies account for between 80 and 90 percent of the total intercity and charter revenues generated by Class I bus companies.

Greyhound — the only transcontinental bus company — showed a substantial loss in earnings for the quarter ending March 31, 1996, accompanied by a rise in revenues and ridership. While the regional carriers had slight increases in revenues, net operating income, and ridership for the quarter, they experienced a decline in ordinary income compared with the same period in 1995.

The nine regional carriers, on a composite basis, experienced a very slight decline in their operating ratio between the three months ending March 31, 1996, and the same period for 1995, as revenues increased at a fractionally higher rate than expenses. For

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*"We have no greater asset than the willingness of a free and determined people, through its elected officials, to face all problems frankly and meet all dangers free from panic or fear."*

*John F. Kennedy  
State of the Union message  
Jan. 29, 1961*