



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

SPOTMASTER 73-45

Broadcast: Friday, March 2, 1973

This is the U.S. Department of Transportation Broadcast News Service for the weekend beginning Friday, March 2. First, a story on air traffic control.

"The Transportation Department's Federal Aviation Administration has announced an important milestone in the air traffic control automation program with the completion of production of the new computerized automated radar terminal systems, known as ARTS III. Sixty-one of the systems will be operating in air control terminals across the nation by the end of this year. The FAA's ARTS III program manager, Norman Edwards, explained the advantages of the system.

"Primarily the ARTS III systems aid the air traffic controller at our busier terminal facilities in the control of in and out traffic at each location. The system increases efficiency and safety by providing computer aid for air traffic controllers during the incoming and outgoing flights. There is no doubt that it enhances the air traffic control system in the terminal and it does this by simplifying the acquisition and maintenance of aircraft identification on the radar scopes. It certainly reduces the communication workload between the pilots and the air traffic controllers and between the controllers themselves.

Next, a story on gains in passenger traffic at Washington airports.

"The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration reported today that both Dulles International and Washington National Airports recorded substantial gains in passenger traffic in 1972. Dulles increased 12.1 percent to over 2.5 million passengers during the year and National was up 7.2 percent for a total passenger traffic of over 11 million. As usual, the largest gain at Dulles was registered among international airline passengers. The gain in airline passengers at Washington National was achieved despite a drop in airline operations during the year."

This has been the Transportation News Report. For further information call 202-426-8521.

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