

This is not a political issue. When the noise comes down from the plane, it strikes the rich and the poor, people in all social strata, people of all faiths, and all political parties.

This is a national problem resulting from a national menace and if we don't act, it is going to be too bad. The sonic boom will be upon us before we get started.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. FRIEDEL. Thank you for your very fine contribution.

Mr. TENZER. Thank you.

Mr. FRIEDEL. You will be available tomorrow?

Mr. TENZER. I will be available tomorrow and thank you for taking me out of turn.

Mr. FRIEDEL. Thank you.

Our next witness will be another colleague of ours from New York, Congressman Fino.

Do you have a prepared statement, Mr. Fino?

STATEMENT OF HON. PAUL A. FINO, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Mr. FINO. Yes. It is a very short statement. I would like to read it for the record.

Mr. Chairman and members of this distinguished committee, needless to say, I appreciate and welcome this opportunity to testify on H.R. 3400 which will allow the Secretary of Transportation to prescribe aircraft noise abatement regulations. I might point out at this time that I have introduced H.R. 5056, a related bill which would allow the Federal Aviation Administrator to prescribe aircraft noise abatement regulations.

I will not take up the time of this committee with a lengthy statement. I would, however, like to say that I represent one of the many districts in New York where people are plagued by jet aircraft noise. The complaints I have received would fill a bushel basket.

Sometimes they come from people with houses where roof tiles have been shaken loose; sometimes from people whose hearing has been damaged; sometimes from workers with night jobs who can't sleep during the daytime; sometimes from workers with daytime jobs who can't sleep at night. The list is endless.

My congressional district lies squarely in the path of a major approach to New York City's La Guardia Airport. The location of La Guardia Airport is such—and the amount of traffic flowing through it is such—that jet noise is becoming a very severe problem in many residential areas of New York City.

In New York, as in many other cities, there are no additional air routes left by which planes may approach existing airports. Thus, if people are to have relief from jet aircraft noise, I am convinced it must come from noise abatement regulations.

Airplanes are going to have to be required to fly higher in approaching and departing from our major airports. Also, I am sure there are other ways in which noise can be minimized, and that is one of the problems which the Federal Aviation Administration will have to solve.