

AIRCRAFT NOISE ABATEMENT

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1967

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND AERONAUTICS,
COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met at 9 a.m., pursuant to notice, in room 2123, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Samuel N. Friedel (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Mr. FRIEDEL. The meeting will now come to order.

This is a continuation of hearings on H.R. 3400, and related bills, which would authorize the Secretary of Transportation to prescribe aircraft noise abatement regulations. The first witness will be Mr. John E. Stephen, general counsel for the Air Transport Association. Mr. Stephen.

STATEMENT OF JOHN E. STEPHEN, GENERAL COUNSEL, AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA; ACCOMPANIED BY WILLIAM BECKER, ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT, OPERATIONS

Mr. STEPHEN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have a written statement which has been submitted for the record, together with some appendixes. The statement itself is of some length, so I will not attempt to read it into the record but will try to summarize it.

Mr. FRIEDEL. Your full statement will be included in the record, following your summarization.

Mr. STEPHEN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is John Stephen. I am general counsel of the Air Transport Association of America, which is made up of the scheduled airlines of the United States.

We appreciate this opportunity to comment on H.R. 3400. The airlines position expressed by the Air Transport Association is to promote noise reduction and therefore we do favor Federal certification of aircraft for this purpose.

However, we qualify that, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, by making clear that we are speaking of certification of the aircraft type under the present act and not, as proposed by H.R. 3400, certification of airmen, airports, air carriers, and air agencies.

Likewise, we do not support the somewhat vague provision of H.R. 3400 referring to "regulatory" authority over noise and sonic boom under title VI, which is the safety certification provision of the act. We feel that the present regulatory authority over noise contained in title III, specifically section 307(c), is adequate for any regulatory noise requirements of the Administrator of the Federal Government.