

Industry notes

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order, United's 30 767s, Pratt & Whitney engines were selected.

Board to use lottery system

The Civil Aeronautics Board has decided to switch from the first-come, first-served method to the luck-of-the-draw system in awarding airlines the dormant routes of other carriers.

When the CAB started to give away the unused rights of carriers in late October, it said these routes would be awarded on the basis of who showed up first to obtain them. The result was a long line of airline officials outside the CAB offices. They had to wait days to stake their claims.

But the board decided that this isn't any way to run a regulatory agency; instead, it will use the lottery method.

Congress asked to prohibit taxation

The Air Transport Association asked Congress to establish policy guidelines on taxation of fringe benefits that would prohibit the taxation of airline passes. In a statement made to the Ways and Means Committee's Task Force on Employee Fringe Benefits, ATA said policy guidelines should be established that would "permit an employer to share with its employees facilities, goods, or services arising from its business, where the employer incurs no additional cost and where the benefits are available to all employees on a non-discriminatory basis, without increasing the employees' tax burden. Airline passes are not additional compensation and therefore should not be taxable," ATA said. The Internal Revenue Service has repeatedly tried to tax fringe benefits such as airline passes, but Congress has prevented such action by prohibiting taxation until Congress has studied the issue. The Ways and Means Committee task force was set up to study the situation and report to the full committee.



Captain and canines create happiness

Is it shades of spidermen or a close encounter of three kinds?

Actually, it's neither. It's the Star Riders, something new in the field of animated cartoons created by Piedmont Captain Jimmy Powers of Atlanta.

The trio includes C o m m a n d e r Captain Powers, First Officer Frostida and Second Officer Kobi, who are identical white Samoyed sled dogs. They call themselves terrestrial travelers of good will.

The Star Riders pursue their mission, generating happiness, aboard the Star Trike. Their extra-terrestrial vehicle is a Volkswagon-powered, highly-chromed and decorated three-wheeler with sophisticated electronic radio equipment.

Already a familiar sight in the Atlanta area, Powers plans to expand his Star Riders' universe. He has discussed his real-life animated cartoon idea with Hanna-Barbera Productions in Los Angeles. Warner Brothers is

also on his list for consideration of Star Riders. In the meantime, the trio is staying busy with television appearances, parades and even football bowl-game halftime shows. He says to look for them in the Peach Bowl festivities just before Christmas.

Powers, who has been with Piedmont since 1966, says his Star Riders mission of "bringing smiles to the faces of earth's beings whom they encounter on the highways and byways" also has a larger purpose — "promoting peace and well-being among all people."

"The image intended for Star Riders," Powers says, "is to show that man and beast — all things — are brothers in one form or another, eliminating racial, geographical, political and social barriers."

If all goes well, Frosty, Kobi and Powers may be changing time slots — from Saturday afternoon halftime to Saturday morning and the Star Riders Show.

Stay tuned.

Aircraft models will be available in Piedmont colors

In answer to what seems like at least a million requests — yes, there are aircraft models available in Piedmont's colors.

Actually, they're not quite ready; but as soon as enough orders are received, production will begin. It will take a minimum of 100 orders for each, 737 and 727, for the manufacturer to start making our models. They will be solid, one-piece plastic finished models, not kits. They are 1/200th scale and come with a plastic stand.

Wooden stands may be ordered for an extra \$2.95 each. In the unlikely event that not enough orders are submitted, the builder will refund money sent prior to production.

The Boeing 737 model will be six inches long; the 727, nine inches. It should take from six to eight weeks for the initial production order.

Piedmont employees get a 10 per cent dis-

count on each model ordered. The prices are as follows:

B737 \$12.50 plus 50¢ postage & handling
\$13 (less 10%) = \$11.70

B727 \$13.50 plus 50¢ postage & handling
\$14 (less 10%) = \$12.60

Florida residents must add 4 per cent sales tax.

Air Jet Advanced Models, Inc.
7733 N.W. 53rd Street
Miami, Florida 33166

NAME _____ B737 in Piedmont markings \$ _____

ADDRESS _____ B727 in Piedmont markings \$ _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Employee Payroll No. _____

Charge card: American Express VISA Card No. _____ Exp. date _____

Diners Club Master Charge Signature _____