

## ***AIR TRAFFIC IS GETTING WORSE AND WORSE***

I'm Mr Smith from the Navigation Department at American Airlines. This report is addressed to the Traffic Control Department because the air traffic is getting worse and worse. I will try to show you how the traffic growth leads global air travelling to a bag-end.

First, according to the Association of European Airlines, the graph shows that the percentage of increase of flights is growing each year to reach 8 percent this year (1987), which brings the number of flights in Western Europe from 2.8 million in 1982 to 3.3 million in 1987, for a general increase of 16 percent.

Second, this fact is emphasized by this article of the Economist which deals with the 13 percent-high in international traffic in 1987. Whereas it grants more and more benefits to air transport companies which has just known the best year since 1984, the increase of airplanes in skies is source of some problems.

To make more profits, the companies make their pilots work more and more. As a result they are very tired by flying too much, so this combined to an air traffic jam causes more and more accidents. The number of holidaymakers is growing up each year while the number of flights cannot rise any more safely, so lot of flights are either cancelled or postponed. The employees are angry because they work too much, especially air traffic controllers and pilots who see their working conditions getting worse and worse. Therefore they are often in strike which adds another problem during busy tourist travels weekends.

But there are a few solutions to solve these problems. A few planes manufacturers, like Airbus or Boeing, are looking for jumbot jets which will be able to carry about 800 passengers, more perhaps ; this kind of planes will fly in 2002. But the main problem is that all transport types (planes, cars, railroad...) are at the top of their capacities, so we have to look for a new transport kind to solve for long this problem.