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INCLUDING INTERNATIONAL AVIATION

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ATA SAYS AIRLINE LOSSES FOR '48 MAY BE ONLY \$6,735,000

Dr. Lewis C. Sorrell, director of research for the Air Transport Association, today released an estimate showing an indicated 1948 net operating loss of all U.S. scheduled carriers -- trunklines, feeders and internationals -- aggregating \$6,735,000.

This is based on total operating revenues of \$643,541,849 and total operating expenses of \$650,227,263. The estimate was based on complete official figures for the first nine months and estimates for the last three months of the year.

Furthermore, Dr. Sorrell said, the retroactive mail pay awards granted by CAB in December would add an estimated \$5,000,000 to the operating revenues of the domestic trunklines in 1948 and, if taken into the revenue accounts for December, would eliminate most of the estimated aggregate operating deficit.

The study indicated a net operating profit of \$3,822,000 for the U.S. international carriers, as compared to a loss of \$284,000 for 1947. Total operating revenues were estimated at \$232,962,000, total operating expenses at \$229,140,000.

For the domestics, there was an indicated net operating loss of \$11,939,000, as compared with a loss of \$20,900,004 for 1947. Operating expenses were estimated to total \$407,173,000, as compared to \$373,390,471 in 1947, and operating revenues (subject to increases through retroactive mail pay awards) totaled an estimated \$395,234,000.

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HOUSE GETS 17 BILLS AFFECTING CIVIL, MILITARY AVIATION

Seventeen of the first day's grist of 438 bills introduced in the House of Representatives yesterday deal directly with some phase of civil or military aviation.

Three of the bills provide for the repeal of the transportation tax on either persons or property. These bills are supported by all modes of common carrier transportation.

Rep. John Kennedy (D., Mass.) introduced a bill which would be termed the Air Merchant Act and which would authorize the construction lease and sale of cargo aircraft to scheduled and non-scheduled air carriers.

To Limit Size of Carriers

Size of future aircraft carriers to be built by the Navy would be limited to 45,000 tons, unless specific authority was obtained from Congress to build larger ships, under terms of a bill offered by Rep. Carl Vinson (D., Ga.), chairman of the Armed Services Committee. The 65,000 ton carrier now being laid down at Norfolk was exempted. If this bill is passed, it would virtually take the Navy out of the controversial field of strategic bombing.

A list of the bills, the names of their authors and the committee reference, follows:

H.R. 20 by John E. Lyle (D., Tex.) authorizing the creation of 10 professional and scientific positions in the headquarters and research stations of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics; Post Office and Civil Service.

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