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American Airlines and Braniff Airways today (Sept. 15) announced plans for inauguration of through one-plane service with fast modern DC-6 equipment between Houston and San Antonio and west coast cities. The joint program worked out by the two companies was filed with the Civil Aeronautics Board for government approval.

The DC-6 schedules of Braniff serving Houston and San Antonio will be combined with American's DC-6 transcontinental flights to Los Angeles and San Francisco. Passengers between Houston and San Antonio and west coast points will receive fast one-plane service without change of aircraft or transfer of baggage.

The plan contemplates that aircraft of American and Braniff will operate directly between Houston, Los Angeles and San Francisco via San Antonio and other southwestern cities. The companies intend to operate direct service between the west and both Houston and San Antonio subject to traffic demands. They intend also to operate local service as needed via Dallas, Fort Worth and Arizona and California cities.

T. E. Braniff, president of Braniff Airways, and C. R. Smith, American Airlines' president, said the service will be started immediately on CAB approval of the proposal.

"The through service program will provide Houston, San Antonio and west coast travelers with the finest, fastest and most convenient air transportation available," the two airline heads declared.

(more)

"In addition the interchange will give passengers between points on the west coast and Latin American countries served by Braniff improved air travel facilities through the Houston gateway," they said.

The airline presidents pointed out that both companies have had long experience in DC-6 transports, adding that equipment, ground facilities and personnel were available to start the interchange flights as soon as government approval is given.

"Under a similar through routing arrangement, Delta Air Lines and American are operating such a service between cities in the southeast and points in the southwest and on the west coast," C. R. Smith said. This arrangement has been highly successful and is enthusiastically endorsed by air travelers.

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