UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD WASHINGTON, D.C.

ISSUED: November 16, 1971

Adopted by the NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD at its office in Washington, D. C. on the 21st day of October 1971

FORWARDED TO:
Honorable John H. Shaffer
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
Washington, D. C. 20591

SAFETY RECOMMENDATION A-71-58

Our investigation of the midair collision between the American Airlines Boeing 707, and the Cessna 150, over Edison Township, New Jersey, on January 8, 1971, disclosed that there was a lack of coordination among Air Traffic Service, the General Aviation District Office, and the civil operators of the pilot training school (which owned the light aircraft) relative to the establishment of the practice area for student flight training. Consequently, IFR aircraft were routinely vectored, and VFR flight training operations were being conducted simultaneously within common airspace.

The Board believes that, because of this lack of coordination, an unwarranted hazard was created for all of the parties involved in the accident.

We have reviewed your Facility Management Handbook 7210.3, Part I, Chapter 3, Section 3, dated October 1, 1969, and have found that this directive is not sufficiently definitive relative to the establishment of procedures for coordination between pertinent Federal Aviation Administration operational authorities and nongovernment authorities.

In view of the above, the Board recommends that:

The Administrator establish procedures whereby all operators of civil flying training schools will formally advise appropriate Federal Aviation Administration authorities of the locations and dimensions of designated practice areas for student flying training, and that such information be disseminated to all affected services within the FAA.

This recommendation will be released to the public on the issue date shown above. No public dissemination of the contents of this document should be made prior to that date.

Reed, Chairman; Thayer and Burgess, Members, concurred in the above recommendation. Laurel and McAdams, Members, were absent, not voting.

By: (John H. Reed Chairman