



U.S. Department of
Transportation

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

125137

OST-00-7088-16

DOCKET: OST-2000-7088
WS

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

MAR 26 2001

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
01 MAR 27 PM 2:38

Mr. Robert D. Papkin
Squire, Sanders & Dempsey, LLP
1201 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Papkin:

On March 17, 2000, the TACA Group airlines and American Airlines filed a joint application for approval of and antitrust immunity for an Alliance Agreement dated September 27, 1996, Docket OST-2000-7088. On the same date, these parties also filed a joint application for renewal and amendment of their code-share authority and other related exemption authority, Docket OST-1996-1700.

By Order 2000-7-8, issued on July 7, 2000, the Department directed the TACA Group and American Airlines to submit additional information that we found to be relevant to our evaluation of these two applications. On February 28, 2001, the TACA Group and American Airlines individually and jointly submitted material in response to our order.

Based on our review of this material, we find that the Joint Applicants' response to Item 3 of our evidentiary request is not responsive. Therefore, in order to clarify our request, consistent with Order 2000-7-8, please provide the Department with all studies, analyses, reports, and information (on any media, formal or informal) that were produced since May 20, 1998, prepared for officers, directors, or individuals exercising similar functions by internal staff or third parties acting on its behalf, that evaluate or analyze the proposed relationship with respect to competition, competitors, potential for traffic growth or expansion into geographic markets, and the extent to which traffic and market forecasts/shares and revenue forecasts/shares for the proposed arrangement will be stimulated versus diverted from other U.S. airlines and indicate (if not contained in the document itself) the date of preparation, and the name and title of each individual who prepared such document.

An identical letter has been sent to counsel for American Airlines. Additionally, a copy of this letter will be placed in Dockets OST-2000-7088 and OST-1996-1700.

Sincerely,

Randall D. Bennett
Director, Office of Aviation Analysis