

## Airlines Ordered to Make Flight Cuts at O'Hare Brian Knapp

On Aug. 18, American Airlines and United Airlines were ordered by federal officials to reduce their schedules again on Nov. 1 in order to ease air traffic congestion at Chicago O'Hare International Airport. Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta and F.A.A. Administrator Marion C. Blakey agree that this reduction will decrease delays by 20% at O'Hare.

Beginning November 1 and lasting through April 30, 2005, American and United were ordered to either cancel or shift a total of 37 flights to out-of-peak travel periods. This affects 20 flights at United and 17 flights at American. According to officials, American and United make up 88% of O'Hare's total operations.

However, the FAA agreement will allow carriers



(From left) FAA Administrator Marion Blakey, Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta, Executive Director of the O'Hare Modernization Program, Rosemarie Andolino and Chicago Aviation Commissioner John Roberson speak at a press conference held at O'Hare.

that currently serve O'Hare with eight or fewer arrivals per day to schedule one additional arrival between noon and 9 p.m., but only with prior approval from the FAA.

"We need to steer a course that will keep passengers and

the economy moving without stunting the growth of competitive service out of O'Hare," Mineta said when he attended a news conference where he and Blakey announced and signed the order.

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