

# Amtrak under fire; rerouting proposed

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — The Transportation Department has completed proposals to abandon more than 10,000 miles of the Amtrak passenger train system and will announce the recommendations today.

The department's recommendation to Congress will be detailed in a New York news conference by Transportation Secretary Brock Adams.

Adams is traveling from Washington to New York on one of the trains he wants to keep, a high-speed Metroliner.

Either the House or the Senate could veto the recommendation within 90 legislative days.

It is uncertain how Congress will react to the report. Although congressmen are in a money-saving mood, hundreds of congressional

districts would lose passenger service.

Included are all three current routes across West Virginia, the home state of Senate Democratic leader Robert Byrd and House Commerce Committee chairman Harley Staggers.

According to a number of sources, the report recommends a system built around the heavily traveled Northeast Corridor from Washington to Boston, with a skeleton of longdistance routes stretching to Florida and the West Coast.

A number of the remaining trains would be rerouted in an effort to increase ridership.

Although last minute changes were possible, the sources said that in addition to the Northeast Corridor, the report would recommend maintaining one of the three New York-Florida trains, two New York-Chicago trains and a Chicago-New Orleans train.

The New York-Chicago trains would be rerouted, with the Lake Shore Limited going through Detroit across southern Canada, with a spur train continuing to Boston.

The Broadway Limited would run on its present route from New York to Pittsburgh, then be rerouted through Cleveland to Chicago. The Broadway's Chicago-Washington section would be rerouted from Pittsburgh to Washington via Cumberland, Md.

In the West, there would be a Seattle-Los Angeles route and three routes from Chicago and New Orleans to the West Coast, including the current New Orleans-Los Angeles Sunset Limited and the Chicago-Seattle Empire Builder.

In the middle of the country, there would be a route from Chicago through Kansas City, Denver and Ogden, Utah, where it would split with sections going to Los Angeles and San Francisco.

In addition, all services partially supported by states would continue to run.

These routes would be abandoned:

- Washington-New York Montreal.
- New York-Kansas City.
- Washington-Cincinnati (both routes).
- Washington-Catlettsburg, Ky.
- Washington-New Orleans.
- Chicago-Florida.
- Chicago-Houston.
- Chicago-Laredo, Texas.
- Chicago-Seattle (via southern Montana).
- Salt Lake City-Portland.
- Chicago-Los Angeles (via Albuquerque).

# U.S. reserve huge, oil official claims

United Press International  
SAN FRANCISCO — The head of Chevron U.S.A. Inc. said Tuesday that "tremendous" petroleum reserves remain "waiting to be unearthed" in the United States.

Speaking before a meeting of the National Association of Wheat Growers, Donald I. Bower, president of the Standard Oil Co. of California subsidiary, said events in Iran underscore a growing need for the United States to increase its domestic energy supplies.

"We should be burning coal, building nuclear plants and employing our arsenal of technological advantage to push every reasonable potential source of energy," Bower said.

He contended that "overregulation" was hampering this development.

He said steps that could free the oil industry would include elimination of price controls, realistic environmental regulations, and re-consideration of the locking up of much of the land in "wilderness."

Bower praised the efforts of American farmers, industry and homeowners to save energy. But, he said, "Our nation ought also to recognize the great capability of our oil industry to increase America's petroleum supply if we are permitted to use that capability."

# Singing welcomes pope to Mexico

United Press International  
MEXICO CITY, Mexico — A sea of singing children greeted Pope John Paul II today with a turnout so tumultuous that the pontiff had to use a helicopter to keep his appointment to visit a school in the capital.

John Paul was deeply moved by the enthusiasm of the 70,000 children who surrounded the Miguel Angel school and waved white handkerchiefs to welcome him.

Standing on a school balcony, he repeatedly brushed his hand across his eyes, as if wiping away tears, as he listened to a song by the 120-member Collegio de Mexico choir.

The crowd of children, stretching for city blocks in all directions, joined in on the song, "Amigo," and other based on the tune of the "Ode to Joy" from Beethoven's 9th symphony. The pope rocked and tapped in time to the music.

"I wish I had time to learn that song," the pope commented.

"You children go to school to learn. The pope too is learning. I have learned some new Spanish very well on this trip."

A teen-age girl, speaking for the children of Mexico, told him that when he winds up his six-day tour today, "millions of white doves will go with you — the hearts of the children of Mexico — which you have awakened to a love of Christ and Mary we will never abandon."

And when at home you see the doves in the plaza of St. Peter's, remember us."

The pope was to have been driven to the school, but the throng of people closed the streets. Officials

tried to clear a path for the motorcade for an hour, but then decided they could only reach the building by air.

A government helicopter made several practice landings to make sure it was safe to land on the school roof before airlifting the pontiff.

The pope had to leave by helicopter as well. He headed for the airport and a flight to Guadalajara, Mexico's second most populous city with more than 2 million inhabitants, where he was scheduled to tour a poor neighborhood.

John Paul journeyed Monday to a small Indian town in southern Mexico. The pope clapped a straw farmer's hat over his white skullcap, listened under a broiling tropical sun to a string of anguished complaints from impoverished Indians, and responded with his toughest call for a better life for the poor.

"The pope and the church are with you," he told a crowd of 10,000 cheering Indians in the dusty plaza of Cuilapam, 9 miles south of Oaxaca.

"The pope speaks for those who cannot speak."

He was cheered when he called for "realistic and effective measures" to improve the lot of the poor, because "it is not Christian to continue with conditions that are not just."

The unexpected speech — the Vatican canceled release of the original — was a sudden change for John Paul, who spent the two previous days delivering stern warnings to priests and bishops that he wants no Marxism influence on the Catholic Church.

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