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Airline's future in the air

# Continental flies; workers get less pay, longer hours

HOUSTON — Continental Airlines resumed flying Tuesday, 62 hours after filing for ruptcy reorganization. of the 4,200 employees called back to work at reduced pay and longer hours cheered the liftoff.

Flight attendants and pilots' unions who blasted layoff of 7,800 workers, pay cuts and longer working hours as "moral abuse" of bankruptcy laws did nothing to stop the first takeoffs. Only mechanics, already striking Continental since Aug. 13,

The first plane took off from Dulles International Airport in Washington for Houston at 8 a.m. The first liftoff from Houscompany headquarters, came 42 minutes later, one minute late. Some employees cheered and others wept.

"I'm delighted to have a job," said ticket agent Kathy Keefe, who was demoted from supervisor. "The pay is disappointing naturally . but I think everybody wants to see the airline survive

Pilot Lee Conway said, "Half salary is better than none."

'We're flying," Continental spokesman Bruce Hicks said jubilantly as he ticked off a list of successful takeoffs, guaranteed in part by Bankruptcy Judge Phil Peden's order requiring creditors to keep serving Con-

Although Continental's first Houston takeoff — Flight 688 to Lafayette, La. — had only six passengers on board, gate attendant Billie Tafelski said: "Even if it was only one person on board, it was worth it." By midday, the Houston air-

port line to buy Continental's "Welcome Back" fares of \$49-or-less on any domestic flight through Friday had grown to several hundred people.

Continental stock was up from one-eighth to 3 and one-

half in the first hour of trading in New York Tuesday. Travel agents, crucial to the longterm success,

watched cautiously. One said the jury was still out

ceed in restoring confidence with \$49 fares through Friday and \$75-or-less through Oct. 15. Fares after that have not been disclosed.

"I don't think the majority of people are going to trust it yet," said Liz Neller of Harvey Travel in Houston. "The next two weeks are going to be a testing

Other airlines strapped with losses also watched with interest. Eastern Airlines Chairman Frank Borman announced to his employees they would have to

take cuts or face similar action. Watching unhappily from the sidelines were Continental employees not called back in Chairman Frank Lorenzo's reorganization that cut the number of cities served from 78 to 25 and the number of daily flights from and other options.

"I'm going to the unemployment office tomorrow and talk to them, said Rosanne Sterk, One said the jury was still out whether Continental will sucarea that is hiring people," union-busting Lorenzo denied interference with union representation.

and productivity concessions be-

President Henry Duffy of the

Duffy said ALPA's Continental executive committee will meet Wednesday and the execuunits of ALPA will meet Thursday to consider a possible strike

# Parents try to halt girl's chemotherapy

United Press International KNOXVILLE, Tenn.

Pamela Hamilton's parents appealed to the state Supreme Court Tuesday to halt courtordered chemotherapy she is undergoing even though the treatment is helping her battle

bone cancer.

Larry and Deborah Hamilton, who object to chemotherton, who object to chemother-apy on religious grounds, filed an application with the state's highest court seeking permis-sion to appeal a Juvenile Court decision that gave the state tem-porary custody of their 12-year-old daughter. The Supreme Court may decide as early as to-day whether to hear the case. day whether to hear the case, a

court clerk said. Pamela's father, a fundamentalist minister, believes only God can heal his child. The state stepped into the case and won custody of Pamela after doctors said Air Line Pilots Association met she would die within months with disgruntled flight attenwithout treatment.

dants and pilots Monday night. One of the girl's physicians, Dr. Frank Haraf, said Pamela has responded so well to treat-He told reporters no immediate action was planned but serious action was being studied. ment at East Tennessee Children's Hospital over the past six days that she may be permitted charged Lorenzo ignored the unions' offer of pay to leave the hospital in a week or two and return home to continue chemotherapy on an outcause he wanted to engineer a patient basis.

Haraf told a news conference that a watermelon-sized tumor on Pamela's left leg has stopped growing and she has not experi-enced any severe side effects from chemotherapy, such as nausea or hair loss

"I'm very pleased with how she's doing," said Haraf. "I would not go so far as to say the tumor is shrinking, but the treat-

the size of the tumor this soon would be to expect too much." Haraf said if Pamela is sent home, a nurse would be assigned to see that she takes the medicine, since the parents for five days, and then eight

'She's not happy being here. will be given, he said.

ment itself is a tedious process. She would be happier to be at To expect a drastic reduction in home," Haraf said.

Pamela has received six intravenous doses of chemotherapy drugs. After eight doses, she will receive no cancer medicine more doses of chemotherapy



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## Smuggling legislation cracks down on pilots

Tuesday clamping down on pilots and owners of airplanes

involved in drug smuggling, much of it through remote airstrips in the Southwest. The measure passed on a voice vote, without dissent. A similar measure is pending in

Bentsen, D-Texas, Pete Domenici, R-N.M. and Dennis DeConcini, D-Ariz., the bill allows the Federal Aviation Administration to revoke the certificate of a pilot convicted of drug smug-

The FAA's harshest penalty is now a 1-year suspension and \$1,000 fine.

"I am pleased that the Senate has approved my legislation and I would hope it will receive swift final approval by Congress and be signed into law by the presi-'said Bentsen.

The legislation was filed in response to estimates by U.S. Customs officials that 1.3 million pounds of illegal drugs will be smuggled into the United States by air this year, 90 percent of them through airstrips in the South and Southwest.

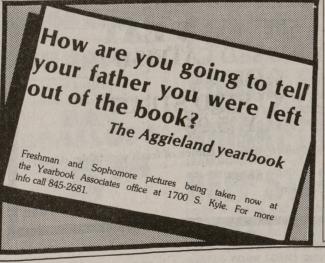
United Press International "Not surprisingly, given the board," he said.

WASHINGTON — The Senconditions under which the ate easily passed legislation small private aircraft used to smuggle drugs are flown, many crash for lack of fuel, because they are overloaded or because their pilots take off from or attempt to land on unmarked, deserted airfields," Bentsen

"The FAA informs me that between 1980 and 1982 there Co-sponsored by Sens. Lloyd were 491 aircraft crashes in which drugs had been on

The bill allows the FAA to suspend for one to five years the certificate of a pilot who has not been convicted but who is found by the administrator to have engaged in illegal drug trafficking.

The FAA administrator also could suspend for the same period the registration of an aircraft used in illegal drug traf-



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