EgyptAir flight 990 quiet

rate until autopilot disconnected

technicians, Hall said.

of the Oct. 31 crash.

have," Hall said

still being analyzed by safety board

He dashed speculation that the plane's initial plunge was caused

by a problem with a thrust reverser
— the cause of a 1991 crash of an-

Thrust reversers are used to slow

an airplane upon touchdown with the runway. One of EgyptAir's re-

versers was out of service at the time

reverser deployment in the data we

idence yet into what doomed the jet.

'There is no evidence of thrust

The tape could provide the best ev-

Flight 990 took off early Hal-

other Boeing 767 in Thailand.

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at the time of 11, schools not ready for 2000

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton assured Texas about mericans yesterday that he expects no major nawas staying mal breakdowns because of Year 2000-related in Byrd's how mputer failures.

of abnormality aboard EgyptAir

I's class of some when the autopilot

sconnected not long after the plane in the digan what should have been a long Scott Wriod of cruise flight, the National The Association Safety Board (NTSB) yof the telepid yesterday.

s a two-min NTSB Chairperson Jim Hall,

s private phoving the first bits of information office on the m the plane's flight data

98, to James corder, said that eight seconds

home telepher the autopilot disconnected,

ds contend has what appears to be a con-

unner for the led descent" from 33,000 feet ential nominal about 19,000 feet.

ed the family. The recorder stopped shortly af-

ngs and beliefs

ybe killed," g ready to go to hit by flying glas AT and KENS, al

up to 15 minu im Boyle said he

d. "We need to our information Nick Simonette

Everyday-

started!!!

T SCHOOL

e New York-to-Cairo flight "be-

ward, and the final five to 10 sec-

But his top expert cautioned that many schools and othing and \$1 emergency centers are falling behind on repairs, drove in his and "it is inevitable there are going to be some glitchin some systems.

Clinton, whose advisory council issued its final reort on the nation's readiness, expressed confidence at the federal government will be ready for the New

If we work together and use this time well, we can ie Sarsavera, ornsure that this Y2K computer problem will be rememir children out ered as the last headache of the 20th century, not the rst crisis of the 21st," Clinton said on the White House hinking that we minutes before flying to Pennsylvania.

But with only 51 days left, the president and his top expert, John Koskinen, said some of the nation's local governments, schools, hospitals and small businesses

were killed.

tage and terrorism.

Kennedy International Airport, ris-

ing to 33,000 feet before plunging

into the sea south of Nantucket Is-

land, Mass., about 40 minutes af-

ter takeoff. All 217 people aboard

Investigators have not ruled out any possible cause, including me-

chanical failure, human error, sabo-

The flight data recorder was de-

Among them were such things as

signed to capture over 150 types of

information from 55 aircraft sys-

tems over a rolling 25-hour period.

the plane's altitude, speed, spin and

roll, when electrical power was cut off,

and how the autopilot functioned.

Only half of America's 911 call centers — usually run by local governments — confirmed last month they were ready

The White House previously warned that 911 failures probably would not prevent police or fire departments from taking calls. But it could force employees to use manual dispatch systems, meaning it will take longer for rescue workers to respond.

There aren't a lot of days left," Koskinen, chair of the President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion, said. He said families should know in advance telephone numbers to directly dial police, hospitals and

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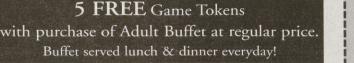
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