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National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO)

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AVIATION safety was the predominant theme of the July meeting of the Directors of the National Association of State Aviation officials. The directors adopted a number of resolutions dealing with safety, particularly in private and agricultural flying.

The directors voted that aircraft manufacturers should be required to design and build aircraft so as to permit effective installation of shoulder harness for all occupants and that the CAA and manufacturers seek the most effective and economic methods of installing the harnesses in existing aircraft. They also called on federal agencies to initiate a project to determine the most effective methods of eliminating spiral instability in both existing and future aircraft. They also put on the agenda of this year's annual meeting the subject "Investigation to Determine the Best Type of Aircraft Structure to Provide Maximum Crash Safety at Minimum Operating Speed."

In the field of accident research the directors resolved that State aviation and police departments should cooperate with Crash Injury Research at Cornell University in compiling accident information. The directors approved in principle a preliminary CAB draft entitled "A Guide to the Procedures and Responsibilities for Reporting Accidents in Civil Non-Air Carrier Flying" and Aircraft Accident Investigation form. All members of NASAO however have been asked to submit their comments to the Safety and Enforcement Committee prior to the annual meeting of the Association in October.

The Safety and Enforcement Committee was authorized to act for the Association whenever the CAA or CAB violate the existing Federal-State Cooperative Enforcement Program by initiating action against a violator who has already been tried by State or local courts except where suspension or revocation of the airman certificate appears appropriate.

Uniform Dusting and Spraying Act

Aside from its concern with safety, the directors meeting adopted a resolution calling for the drafting of a uniform state law for the "promotion and regulation" of the aerial dusting and spraying industry and assigned the task to the Agricultural and Flying Farmers Committee. It was also agreed that in the future there should be discussions with the Air Transport Association on proposed state and local legislation in an effort to develop an agreed position for both NASAO and ATA.

Other resolutions adopted by the directors recommend (1) that the Airport Use Panel of the Air Coordinating Committee be combined with its Airspace Subcommittee and that the Regional Airspace Subcommittees be similarly enlarged. It was also agreed that during periods of Civil Defense alerts the following visual signals be utilized to recall local flying aircraft:

(a) During daylight hours — Black smoke (from oil and/or waste fire) preferably located near wind tee or segmented circle.

(b) During hours of darkness — Red fuse flares similar to those used on highways to warn auto traffic.

* General Counsel NASAO.