counter**point**



Lies Make the Skies Very Un-Friendly

his airline (and others) have been feeding passengers like you a steady string of lies about a serious issue that will affect all airline passengers: how the FAA is funded and managed in the future. Why? Because the airlines are — again — looking for another huge tax bailout from the government (that means *taxpayers* — like *you*).

Smart Skies? Hardly.

In this magazine there's an article called "Smart Skies." It's written by the head lobbyist for the airline industry and he makes the following statements that grossly distort the facts. He says...

- There isn't money to modernize Air Traffic Control (ATC) system
- That satellites aren't being used in the ATC system
- Airline delays are caused by the ATC system
- The efficient way the FAA is funded needs to be modernized
- The airlines pay more than their "fair share" of costs to run the FAA

It probably won't surprise you to learn that this Washington lobbyist has, in every case, **distorted the facts.**

The facts

- There is plenty of money to modernize the ATC system. Even the government says so!
- Satellites are *today* an essential part of air navigation.
- A recent Dept. of Transportation report said that the delays are a result of weather ... or the airlines themselves!
- The FAA's current funding system has resulted in nothing less than the largest, safest, most efficient air transportation system in the world!
- The airlines pay more because they use far more of the system (that was designed just for them) than anyone else.

Any of these other statements is just *another* effort to mask the incompetent ways the airlines run their business. What do the airlines *really* want? *Another* bailout, *another* major tax break, *another* loan guarantee. In the last decade these have totaled more than \$37 billion!

You deserve to know the truth.

Before the airlines try to change a good thing, we urge you to visit www.aviationacrossamerica.org today. There you'll learn how and why our air transportation system is the envy of the world. And why it's so important to keep it that way. Have a good flight. And let's keep the skies friendly for *all* air travelers.

Placed in this magazine by a fellow traveler and concerned pilot.