A158 (180)

FIRST LEAD KENNEDY

NORTHAMPTON, MASS., JUNE 29 (AP)-THE MASSACHUSETTS DIRECTOR OF AERONAUTICS SAID TODAY THAT HIS PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION OF THE PLANE ACCIDENT IN WHICH SEN. EDWARD M. KENNEDY WAS INJURED INDICATED THE PLANE WAS FLYING "AT ALTITUDES LOWER THAN THOSE REQUIRED FOR SAFE CLEARANCE OF HIGH TERRAIN IN THE VICINITY."

IN THE REPORT SENT TO ALAN S. BOYD, CHAIRMAN OF THE CIVIL
AERONAUTICS BOARD, STATE AERONAUTICS DIRECTOR CROCKER SNOW SAID
"THERE IS EVIDENCE FROM THE PASSENGERS WHO SURVIVED THAT THERE WAS
NOTHING NOTICEABLY WRONG UNTIL JUST BEFORE THE AIRPLANE HIT."

SNOW RECOMMENDED THAT SIMILAR ACCIDENTS COULD BE PREVENTED "IF PILOTS ON AN INSTRUMENT APPROACH WERE REQUIRED NOT ONLY TO REPORT PASSING OVER THE FINAL RADIO FIX, BUT ALSO THEIR INDICATED ALTITUDE AT THE TIME. ANY UNSAFE DEVIATION COULD THEN IMMEDIATELY BE CALLED TO THE PILOT'S ATTENTION."

SNOW'S REPORT MADE NO REFERENCE TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT FAULTY INSTRUMENTS MAY HAVE BEEN THE CAUSE OF THE PLANE FLYING SO LOW.

CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD INVESTIGATORS INTERVIEWED THE DEMOCRATIC SENATOR FROM MASSACHUSETTS YESTERDAY AND THEN SAID THEY ARE TRYING TO DETERMINE IF THE PLANE'S INSTRUMENTS WERE FUNCTIONING PROPERLY.

THEY STRESSED THAT MORE TIME WILL BE NEEDED TO DEVELOP THE FACTS.

KENNEDY IS ETC., 3RD GRAF A77.

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NORTHAMPTON, MASS., JUNE 29 (AP)-SEN. EDWARD M. KENNEDY SAYS HE HAD NO WARNING OF TROUBLE JUST BEFORE HIS PLANE CRASHED JUNE 19, KILLING TWO OF THE FIVE PERSONS ABOARD.

THE DEMOCRATIC SENATOR FROM MASSACHUSETTS WAS INTERVIEWED FOR 10 MINUTES YESTERDAY BY A CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD INVESTIGATOR.

KENNEDY IS RECUPERATING AT COOLEY DICKINSON HOSPITAL FROM A BROKEN BACK AND OTHER INJURIES.

KENNEDY'S PILOT AND AN AIDE WERE KILLED

KENNEDY IS RECUPERATING AT COOLEY DICKINSON HOSPITAL FROM A BROKEN BACK AND OTHER INJURIES. LESS SERIOUSLY HURT WERE SEN. BIRCH BAYH, D-IND., AND HIS WIFE, MARVELLA.

KENNEDY'S PILOT AND AN AIDE WERE KILLED IN THE CRASH, WHICH OCCURRED ABOUT 11 P. M. JUNE 19 IN FOGGY WEATHER.

KENNEDY RECALLED THE MOMENTS BEFORE THE CRASH TO CAB INVESTIGATOR GEORGE VAN EPPS AND TWO OTHER CAB MEN TRYING TO DETERMINE THE CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT AT NEARBY SOUTHAMPTON.

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