

U. S. WILL REVIEW JERSEY AIRPORTS

TIME 3 12/22/59
Quesada to Meet With State
Congressmen to Resolve
Fight Over Jet Facility

By C. P. TRUSSELL

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—

The Federal Aviation Agency has agreed to review plans for the establishment of another jet airport to serve metropolitan New York.

E. R. Quesada, administrator of the agency, will meet with the New Jersey Congressional delegation on Jan. 29 to explore a situation that has provoked high controversy. One New Jersey county does not want a jet airport near it, and another wants one but has been unsuccessful in achieving firm prospects of one.

The two counties are Morris County and Burlington County. A year ago Burlington applied for a loan of \$300,000 from the Housing and Home Finance Agency to start ground examinations on the feasibility of locating a 10,000-acre jet airport in that area.

However, the Port of New York Authority, after exploring fifteen sites, selected a tract in Morris County, to the north, and said, in effect, that it was that tract or none. The fast-growing population of the Morristown area served notice that it wanted no jet traffic over head.

Burlington County still wants the airport, it appears. Its first bid for the \$300,000 loan was rejected on the basis that military air traffic was filling up the air lanes in the area to a point where commercial jets would not have a free air highway.

Situation Eased

Since that decision, an easing of military air traffic over the Morris County area has been reported. The Pomona Air Base at Atlantic City is moving elsewhere. There are reports that cutbacks in air operations will be effected at Lakehurst. Also, rumors have been heard that cutbacks would be made at McGuire Air Force Base, also in the Burlington area.

In back of the new projects is a proposed plan to let New York International Airport at Idlewild, Queens, now being overcrowded with the handling of all jet plane operations, international and domestic, take care of the overseas flights and let the new air base handle domestic.

An argument against the Burlington County plan is that the proposed airport would be sixty-five miles from New York. This, it is held, would mean a longer drive than from a Morris County airport.

Senator Clifford P. Case, Republican of New Jersey, arranged the review of the situation by General Quesada. He wrote to the F. A. A. administrator last Thursday to point up the situation. He suggested that the vigorous opposition by citizens of Morris County would be duplicated in any of the more densely populated counties closer to New York.

Mr. Case suggested also that other factors meriting consideration included the accelerated technological developments in both the jet passenger and freight fields, helicopter service, and rapid transit systems on the ground. Increased overseas travel, he added, must be considered, and also the reduced requirements for interceptor planes as the country's air defense relied increasingly on missiles.



Harris & Ewing

**IN AIRPORT ISSUE: E. R. Quesada, the Federal
trator. He will review plans
for a New Jersey location.**