

PHILADELPHIA OFFICE
SAM DAVIES FNL-40-1

FOR USE: After 5 P.M. (EST), Wednesday, November 29, 1967

Editor's Note: The following also is being released by the U.S.
Department of Housing and Urban Development

HUD CITES WESTINGHOUSE FOR ROLE IN TRANSIT TECHNOLOGY

WASHINGTON, D.C., Nov. 29 -- The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development today presented its first Urban Transportation Award to Westinghouse Electric Corporation of Pittsburgh for the company's outstanding achievements in the field of urban transportation technology.

HUD Secretary Robert C. Weaver made the presentation to Westinghouse President Donald C. Burnham during the department's one-day Washington conference on "New Approaches to Urban Transportation."

The secretary praised Mr. Burnham for his success in directing the research capabilities of his company toward the solutions of urban transportation problems.

Said Secretary Weaver, "Westinghouse has earned this award by its foresight in entering the field of urban transportation technology, a field in which it had not been a significant supplier, and by the creativity and value of its engineering achievements in this new field.

"The corporation's fresh approach has led to three significant developments," Secretary Weaver continued.

He listed these as, first, an innovative system -- the Transit Expressway -- to serve medium density population areas and medium traffic routes; second, automatic train control and propulsion systems for large city systems -- such as the Bay Area Rapid Transit District in San Francisco -- which must handle high-volume, rush-hour traffic; and third, the development of a small, electrically powered vehicle for individual automotive transportation.

The Transit Expressway, an original type of small train which operates automatically on rubber tires and can travel on lightweight elevated structures, has been successfully tested by the Allegheny County Port Authority, assisted through a \$2,872,000 grant from HUD. It is in operation in the South Park section of Pittsburgh.

Such a system, with a capacity between that of the automobile and large subway or commuter train, could provide transportation for medium density areas, Secretary Weaver indicated.

He added that better transportation would permit wider options in land use, residential development and municipal zoning for such areas.

Westinghouse Electric Corporation's "wayside control system," developed to keep down weight and cost of track and vehicles for the Transit Expressway, is a new concept in automatic train control. The major part of the control equipment is placed at wayside stations while a lightweight, electronic package is installed aboard the cars.

In operation, the new system has successfully automated station dwell-time, speed selection and other operations for greater efficiency and *better* ~~better~~ passenger service.

The automatic control equipment and propulsion systems built by Westinghouse for prototype cars on the Bay Area Rapid Transit District's test tracks will be used throughout the entire BARTD system. The BARTD test track project was assisted by a \$7,019,333 HUD grant.

For the individual driver, Westinghouse has developed and is now marketing a small electrically powered vehicle called the Marketeer I.

Said Secretary Weaver, "HUD will watch with interest the success of the Marketeer I in contributing to the solution of two vital urban problems, the reduction of air pollution from vehicle emission, and freer traffic movement in urban and suburban business districts."

##81116-14##