MIDWIFE IN THE AIR

shannon airport, irish republic, dec 11, reuter:
a 22-year-old hungarian refugee girl gave birth to a son in
the airport hospital here early today after going into labour
in a fog-bound american airliner.

dr. william flynn, the airport's medical officer,
delivered the baby twenty minutes after the
skymaster had landed in a break in the fog.

he told lajos raics, the husband, that his wife
elizabeth had given birth to a fine little fellow.

earlier, dr. flynn had radioed midwifery
instructions to two air hostesses in the airliner,
owned by u.s. overseas, a company specialising in
immigrant flights from europe to the united states.

mrs. raics, one of 75 immigrants flying from
belgrade to new york, went into labour when the airliner
had been airborne three hours.

captain ted clarke, the pilot
was forced to circle shannon for an hour
in the fog.

he asked dr. flynn for advice and passed it on
to his hostesses, one of whom was a 20-year-old
german girl lillian steigerwald, of hambur.

then captain clarke found a gap in the fog and brought
the plane down. dr. flynn rushed to the airliner
with an ambulance and took mrs. raics to the hospital.