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**NOTES FOR REMARKS BY
HON. PRIME MINISTER
AT DEDICATION CEREMONY FOR
SPIRIT OF WESTMORELAND AIRCRAFT
NORMAN MANLEY AIRPORT -1999 MAY 5**

- Commend management of Air Jamaica for vision, drive and innovation.
- Image of airline and the level of service has greatly improved
- Staff infused by a culture of service and a commitment to excellence.
- Prettiest plane in the sky, eclipsed only by the attractive ladies among the in-flight crew
- Govt. fully supports efforts to modernise the Air Jamaica fleet
- Safe and modern aircraft essential to the success of any airline.
- Air Jamaica's safety record has been impeccable
- Upgrading of fleet is costly, but necessary and has full agreement of Govt

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- Resources expended so far has provided positive results
 - Airline carried over 1.5 million passengers during 1998, an increase of 11% over 1997
 - Revenue grew by 14% in 1998 over 1997
 - Airline carried nearly 420 000 tourist into island last year, an increase of 85% over last five years.
- Air Jamaica has been indispensable to the growth of Jamaican Tourism Sector
- Pleased that an aircraft has been named after the parish of Westmoreland for which I am one of the Member of Parliament.
- I commend the management of the airline for identifying its fleet with the names of parishes
- This will further cement the people's affection towards the national carrier.