

Advisers Deny SST Is Hazard 2-Year Test Is Scheduled

WASHINGTON (AP) — The supersonic transport's two top environmental advisers say they feel a new research program will prove the SST of no significant harm to the world or its people.

Dr. S. Fred Singer, chairman of the SST Environmental Advisory Committee, told a House subcommittee yesterday he is 95 per cent sure of that finding. He said he expects to be 99.9 per cent sure when the two-year research program is completed in March of 1973.

Dr. William W. Kellogg, associate director of the National Center for Atmospheric Research, said he feels the effects of SST flights will be "imperceptible and trivial" compared with natural atmospheric fluctuation.

"There is no question," Singer said, "that the SST is going to release some pollutants into the atmosphere, but it is doubtful whether they will be of any significance."

Both men said the \$27 million research program will include measurements and analysis of ozone-photochemical reactions and particle effects in the stratosphere. These reactions are at the heart of most theories of potential SST environment dangers.

Singer discounted a theory that SSTs could increase skin cancer in the United States by at least 5,000 cases a year by reducing the stratosphere's radiation-shielding ozone.

He said ozone is not the stratosphere's only filter and added that the theory's chief proponent, Dr. James E. McDonald, "is playing a numbers game."

Both he and Kellogg defended McDonald's credentials as an atmospheric physicist, although Kellogg said ultraviolet radiation and skin cancer were out of McDonald's field.