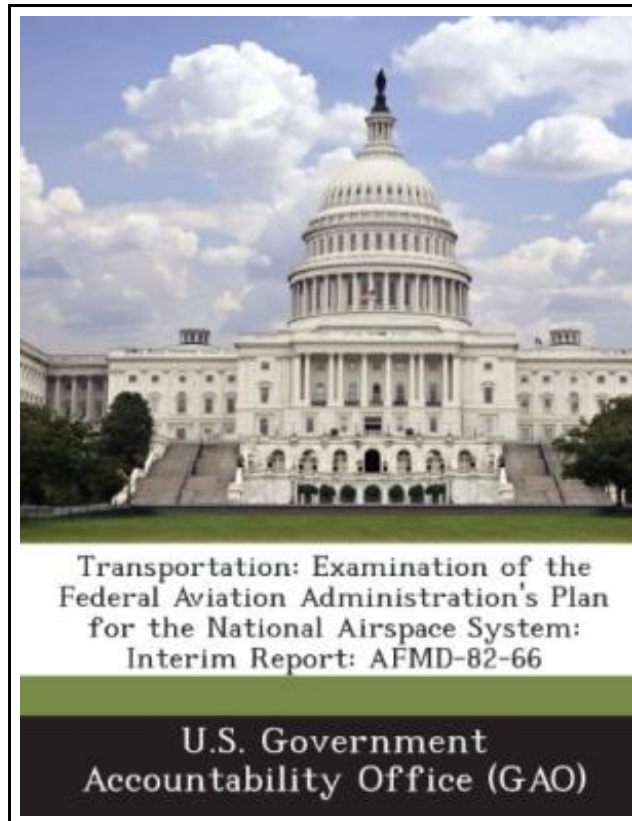


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Bibliogov. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 82 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.2in. GAO was asked to review the Federal Aviation Administrations (FAA) planning, management, and acquisition of automated systems for air traffic control and management purposes, and the plan for upgrading the current computer and communications systems for air traffic control and making extensive improvements to the National Airspace System (NAS). The stated aims of the NAS plan are: (1) consolidation of facilities; (2) standardization of computer hardware and software; and (3) greater reliance on automation for improved safety, fuel efficiency, and productivity. To determine if the plans objectives are reasonable, they should be quantified, linked to implementing systems and actions, and compared with their associated cost. The plan needs more detail to support: increased future demands, improved safety and services, reduction of operating costs, and replacement of facilities and equipment. It should also include cost information on individual programs, projects, or systems as well as information on the plans benefits and savings. A major issue is whether FAA will comply with Public Law 89-306 in procuring computers for the air traffic control (ATC) system. Although GAO has recommended that FAA comply with the law and with General Services Administration implementing procedures for computer procurements, in a testimony before a congressional committee, an FAA official said that the agency does not intend to do so. Serious omissions have been made in planning the procurement of computer systems and, as a result, FAA is procuring new computers that may not be needed. FAA has experienced many problems in developing less complex ATC automation and related projects. The successful implementation of the NAS plan depends on many factors, including the support of all parties involved. To have lasting use, the plan must be revised annually....



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