

Big, Wide World Comes to Kotzebue

(From KOTZEBUE NEWS)

KOTZEBUE — The big, wide, wonderful world will arrive in Kotzebue January 5, when jet and F-27 passengers will be required to submit to search before boarding aircraft.

Jim Edsell, manager at Wien says both passengers and hand carried luggage will be searched. Body search will be done with the use of a hand-held magnetometer which will be able to detect any metal carried on the person.

Hand carried luggage will have to be opened and contents examined.

The plan is that each passenger will be scanned individually before boarding the aircraft, and each item of luggage to be carried aboard searched at that time.

Such items as scissors and pocket knives as well as guns will not be permitted in the passenger section of the planes. Once search is complete, passengers will remain sequestered until boarding time.

Edsell says Wien strongly advises passengers to check hand carry luggage to help speed up the process.

He said that an armed guard will be stationed at each airline terminal during check-in, search and boarding process.

The guard will be supplied by the State Division of Aviation.