

# Baby Born On Plane Headed For Chicago

## Girl Delivered Aboard Flight From Mexico Could Be Eligible For U.S. Citizenship

**CHICAGO, Dec. 8, 2006**

**(CBS/AP)** This was one baby who couldn't wait to land.

A 42-year-old woman gave birth to a healthy girl late Wednesday aboard a plane destined for O'Hare International Airport from Mexico, officials said Thursday.

The birth on the Mexicana Airlines plane came nearly an hour before the midnight landing, airport spokeswoman Wendy Abrams said.

A spokeswoman for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services said a child born in airspace over American territory is eligible for U.S. citizenship.

The woman was flying from Guadalajara with her husband and two children to visit relatives in Milwaukee.

"There was a doctor who happened to be flying who also happened to be an obstetrician-gynecologist," Chicago Fire Department spokesman Richard Rosado said. "So she couldn't have been in better hands."

"The people on board the aircraft — they were cheering and clapping and congratulating her as we exited the aircraft," paramedic Al Trigl told **CBS station WBBM-TV** in Chicago.

The woman and her 7-pound, 8-ounce newborn are doing fine, said a spokeswoman at Resurrection Medical Center.

The Citizenship and Immigration spokeswoman said if the parents want to pursue citizenship for their daughter, they'll have to file an application. Then officials investigate whether the child was born in Mexican airspace or over international waters.

The woman, who was not identified, is a Mexican citizen, reported the Chicago Sun-Times.