

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0907

Fact vs. Fiction

The TRUTH About Airline Security

Dear Colleague:

Let me provide you with the truth relating to effective airline security screening.

FICTION: We must create a new 27,000 Federal employee bureaucracy to model European success.

FACT: Most airports in Europe provide security through a coordinated effort of public sector oversight and supervision of private screening contractors. In general, foreign governments provide an average of 10 to 15 percent of security personnel, while the private sector provides the remaining 85-90 percent of security personnel.

- Amsterdam: 2000 private; 200-250 law enforcement
- Brussels: 700 private; 50 law enforcement
- Paris-Charles DeGaulle: 500-600 private; 100 police
- Paris-Orly: 350-400 private; 50 police
- Lyons: 150 private; 30 police
- Nice: 150-250 private, 20-30 police
- Frankfurt: 350 private; 500 federal, with plans to increase private participation
- Geneva: 250 contract, 250 government
- Stockholm: 200 private; 40 law enforcement
- Norway Oslo: 150 private; 20 law enforcement
- Helsinki: 150 contract; 20 law enforcement
- Berlin: 450 private; 60 law enforcement
- London Heathrow: 3000 private contractors for screening; hundreds doing guard and perimeter security for the private British Airports Authority; and 20 federal law enforcement
- London Gatwick: 1500 private contractors doing screening; hundreds doing guard and perimeter security for private British Airports Authority; and 11 federal law enforcement

Sincerely,



John L. Mica
Chairman

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Subcommittee on Aviation