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**From:** sam richards [mailto:samrv6@bravo.net.au]

**Sent:** Thursday, 4 September 2003 4:15 PM

**To:** Carter, John Gordon (REPS)

**Subject:** Submission to aviation Security review

Dear Mr Carter,

I understand that your committee is reviewing security measures appropriate to Australian aviation. Would you please consider these thoughts.

Much of country Australia is dependent on general aviation and the economical functioning of its regional airlines and charter organisations. Imposts such as passenger searches, limited access to airports and expensive security equipment make regional aviation impractical.

Recent measures requiring airlines to armour their flight deck doors is an example of an infinite number of measures that could be taken to deter assailants. Logically these *all* need to be adopted to cover 'gaps' in security. Meanwhile the cost to airlines and passengers soars and payloads dwindle. None of these guarantees safety. ( Some flight deck doors are not armoured to the floor allowing access from below, and standard bulkheads adjacent to electrical and galley facilities leave flight crew unprotected from projectiles.)

A better approach might be to:

- Start educating the general (flying) public that all reasonable measures have been taken to promote aviation security, but that certain risks are involved which they will have to accept when and if they decide to fly.

- Foster passengers becoming 'street wise' regarding unusual behaviour; unattended luggage, etc.

- Avoid promoting a 'fix-it' approach to apparent weaknesses in aviation security. The implementation of these results in financial punishment for small operators, pilots in training and recreational pilots.

Consideration needs to go beyond immediate news reporting to submissions such as these by members of the aviation community and end users.

Yours truly,

Sam Richards

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