

31 August 2005

JCPA Members

Further Review into Aviation Security (Report 400)

BUREAUCRACY VERSUS SECURITY – SECURITY LOSES OUT

In my earlier submission to this review, I highlighted what we believed to be the equality of security analysis treatment of the issuing of pilot licences (AVID) and airport security cards for airport workers (ASIC).

My interest has been for the AVID to logically double as an ASIC for GA pilots not employed in RPT nor needing access to RPT areas (see submission 2 to this Review).

Advice has today been received from DoTARS that the pilot licence issued by CASA receives a **LESSER** security check than that of airport workers.

The DoTARS advice is that a check for an ASIC has an additional check done by ASIO – a PMV or Politically Motivated Violence check.

The exact DoTARS wording is “[Therefore, the CASA photographic licence checks are not sufficient or rigorous enough to double up for the issue of an ASIC.](#)”

Therefore, CASA are issuing pilots licences with a lesser security check than is needed for say the ASIC of the airport worker who empties the toilets on a 747, or tows it back from its docking bay before engine start.

As a pilot, I applaud the Government for that unwitting trust placed in us pilots. However, as a former security cleared soldier, I cringe to think that a PMV is not conducted on a pilot - who has a far higher overall security role than an airport worker.

I recommend to the JCPA that CASA and DoTARS be asked to put their heads together and ENSURE that the security checks for both AVID and ASIC are the same. If nothing else, this will relieve ASIO of double handling once a pilot applies for an ASIC.

Could I also suggest to the JCPA that this latest example of bureaucratic division over security highlights the shambles that currently exists particularly in the lower level of GA. Forgive the next paragraph but this SNAFU does deserve humour.

The JCPA may well consider a recommendation disbanding our security units and simultaneously enlisting our aviation bureaucrats on the side of the terrorists. Given the results to date over the AVID/ASIC, it is unlikely that terrorism could survive such a Trojan Horse!

Signed electronically Brian Hannan