

SECRET  
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## **INTRODUCTION**

This report deals with security arrangements affecting airports and airlines in Canada.

On June 23 1985 Air India flight 182 was en route from Toronto and Montreal to London and Bombay when it disintegrated off the Irish coast. All 329 persons aboard perished. Less than an hour earlier, a piece of baggage, which was destined for a Tokyo-Bangkok Air India flight, exploded at Tokyo's Narita airport killing two persons. The bomb, which was contained in baggage, had been unloaded from Canadian Pacific flight 003, which had earlier arrived from Vancouver. These events prompted the Prime Minister to ask the Secretary to the Cabinet to have the Interdepartmental Committee on Security and Intelligence undertake a review of airport and airline security in Canada. The review, which resulted in this report, was led by the Intelligence and Security Co-ordinator, who tasked the Deputy Minister of Transport, the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Deputy Solicitor General, the Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and the Director of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service to provide him with information, access to sites, and critical comment, all of which form the basis of the following analysis and recommendations. In the course of the review, the Co-ordinator met with representatives of the Air Transport Association of Canada (ATAC), the International Air Transport Association and the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, and had access to written representations submitted to the Department of Transport by the Canadian Air Line Pilots Association, the Canadian Air Line Flight Attendants Association and ATAC. He also visited J.F. Kennedy Airport in New York and Pearson International Airport in Toronto.

The report deals with the following issues having to do with air security: the role of intelligence; existing physical and personnel security arrangements; recent improvements to those arrangements and further steps to be taken; the management of terrorist and other similar incidents; the management of the air security system as a whole; and the audit of the system. Throughout, the emphasis is on practical means of improving airport and airline security. This emphasis recognizes the need for a reasonable balance between the expeditious movement of passengers and the assurance of their safety and security. It also recognizes that the human factor is crucial to security, including the travelling public, must be continually aware of the requirements of security and share in the responsibility for its enhancement and maintenance.

### **The Role of Intelligence in Respect to Air Security**

Although Canadian authorities had been alerted to the possibility that Air India could be a target of Sikh terrorism, and action had been taken in co-operation with Air India to improve airport security for the airline, there was no specific intelligence that indicated an aircraft might be bombed. Furthermore, to date, the investigation into the events of 23 June has not disclosed any hard information on who may have been involved