

Shirley Ybarra
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REMARKS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION ELIZABETH HANFORD DOLE
PRESENTATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GOLD AWARD
OCTOBER 17, 1985
WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE DEPARTMENT'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT -- OUR GOLD MEDAL -- IS THE HIGHEST AWARD WE CONFER. IT RECOGNIZES SUPERIOR ACHIEVEMENT AND OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP -- UNIQUE PERFORMANCE BY A TRULY EXCEPTIONAL INDIVIDUAL.

THIS YEAR'S RECIPIENT IS JIM WILDING, DIRECTOR OF THE FAA'S METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AIRPORTS. FOR THE LAST SIX YEARS, HE HAS DONE AN EXTRAORDINARY JOB OF MANAGING NATIONAL AND DULLES AIRPORTS - THE ONLY TWO AIR CARRIER AIRPORTS OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

JIM HAS SPENT HIS ENTIRE CAREER WITH THE AIRPORTS, BEGINNING IN 1959 AS AN ENGINEER WORKING ON THE PLANNING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF DULLES. HE IS NOW SEEING THOSE PLANS COME TO FRUITION -- IN NO

SMALL PART DUE TO HIS OWN EFFORTS OVER THE YEARS -- AS THE NUMBER OF CARRIERS AND TRAFFIC AT DULLES IS EXPANDING AT AN HISTORIC RATE.

IN RECENT YEARS, HE HAS BEEN IN THE MIDDLE OF OUR EFFORTS TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING POLICY FOR DULLES AND NATIONAL. MORE RECENTLY, HE HAS PROVIDED INVALUABLE COUNSEL AND ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT TO OUR EFFORTS TO TRANSFER THE AIRPORTS TO AN INDEPENDENT REGIONAL AUTHORITY. HE HAS SHOWN PARTICULAR CONCERN FOR THE FUTURE OF HIS EMPLOYEES WITHOUT WHOM THE TRANSFER WILL NOT SUCCEED.

WE ARE USED TO HEARING ABOUT HOW MUCH THE GOVERNMENT CAN LEARN FROM PRIVATE INDUSTRY. IN JIM'S CASE, IT WORKS THE OTHER WAY AROUND. ACCORDING TO THOSE THAT USE DULLES AND NATIONAL, THEY ARE THE MOST EFFICIENTLY AND COMPETENTLY RUN AIR CARRIER AIRPORTS IN THE NATION. UNDER JIM'S LEADERSHIP, THE FAA EMPLOYEES AT THE AIRPORTS

CONSTITUTE THE LEANEST, MOST EFFICIENT AIRPORT WORK FORCE IN THE NATION.

IT'S A GREAT PLEASURE TO PRESENT THIS YEAR'S GOLD AWARD TO JIM WILDING.

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via Shirley Ybarra

Statement Prepared for Secretary Dole
Presenting the DOT Gold Award
October 17, 1985

The Department's Award for Outstanding Achievement - our gold medal - is the highest award we confer. It recognizes superior achievement and outstanding leadership - unique performance by a truly exceptional individual.

This year's recipient is Jim Wilding, Director of the FAA's Metropolitan Washington Airports. For the last six years, he has done an extraordinary job of managing National and Dulles Airports--the only two air carrier airports owned and operated by the federal government.

Jim has spent his entire career with the airports, beginning in 1959 as an engineer working on the planning, design, and construction of Dulles. He is now seeing those plans come to fruition -- in no small part due to his own efforts over the years -- as the number of carriers and traffic at Dulles is expanding at an historic rate.

In recent years, he has been in the middle of our efforts to develop a comprehensive operating policy for Dulles and National. More recently, he has provided invaluable counsel and enthusiastic

support to our efforts to transfer the airports to an independent regional authority. He has shown particular concern for the future of his employees without whom the transfer will not succeed.

We are used to hearing about how the much the government can learn from private industry. In Jim's case, it works the other way around. According to those that use Dulles and National, they are the most efficiently and competently run air carrier airports in the Nation. Under Jim's leadership the FAA employees at the Airports constitute the leanest, most efficient airport workforce in the Nation.

It's a great pleasure to present this year's Gold Award to Jim Wilding.