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The U.S. Department of Transportation Broadcast News Service for Monday, June 11 has two actualities on aviation security and terrorism.

Terrorism and aviation were focused on by Assistant Secretary of Transportation for Environment, Safety and Consumer Affairs, Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., in his speech today before the Washington, D.C. chapter of the American Society of Traffic and Transportation. Assistant Secretary Davis spoke of American security and the threat of today's terrorists.

"That is the face of terrorism today. It kills without warning and without reason and it travels by jet plane. It is one of the major reasons that the United States now has the most rigidly controlled and enforced civil aviation security system in the world. Until the new security procedures were ordered into effect this year, we were faced with the chilling prospect of terrorism unleashed here; we enplane a half million airline passengers a day in this country, and there are 531 airports, the major terminals crowded with defenseless people."

David also expressed hope for international action against terrorism.

"Apart from the success of our domestic deterrence program, there are encouraging signs of progress against terrorism. The anti-hijacking detente with Cuba this year shut down the one air piracy haven in this hemisphere. Algeria has indicated to our State Department that it might like a similar arrangement. Some of the Arab nations have reacted with revulsion to the murderous activities of Black September over the past year; recent fighting in Lebanon between the army and Palestine Liberation groups indicates that the Beirut government is leaning toward King Hussein's solution for extremists -- drive them out. And there is still hope for concerted world action against the terrorists, if not through the United Nations, then through some other multilateral agreement."

This has been the Transportation News Report.

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