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SENIOR STAFF MEETING

Thursday, December 11, 1975
8:00 a.m.

THE WHITE HOUSE

REQUESTED

WASHINGTON

December 10, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CANNON
FROM: JIM CAVANAUGH
SUBJECT: Airline Safety

Dave Gergen, who is over at Treasury, first mentioned it.

I talked to Steve McConahey about it this morning, and he agreed. Before we did anything, I asked Steve to check with Secretary Coleman to make sure it wouldn't cause the Secretary any problem.

We alerted the Press Office, and they mentioned it in their briefing after this morning's Cabinet meeting.

You might want to mention something at tomorrow's staff meeting to encourage our staff to be on the lookout for similar opportunities.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 10, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: HONORABLE WILLIAM T. COLEMAN, JR.
Secretary
Department of Transportation

SUBJECT: Airline Safety

I have read with considerable concern news reports on the recent "near miss" incidents involving large passenger jets. It is of great importance that we maintain our excellent record in air safety. Therefore, I am requesting a report from you summarizing the circumstances surrounding these incidents and identifying the steps that are being taken to avoid similar problems in the future.

This matter merits immediate attention, particularly as we enter the holiday season when air travel will be heavy.

Cannon FYI

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SIGNATURE

December 10, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JIM CANNON

SUBJECT: Airline Safety

Jim L-
good
Whose idea?

Within the past few days, there have been three "near miss" situations where passenger airplanes have come dangerously close to major collisions. Fortunately, last-minute FAA and pilot actions avoided catastrophies and kept injuries to a minimum.

Jim

I believe it is imperative that we maintain our excellent record in air safety, particularly as we enter the holiday season when air travel will be heavy. Therefore, it is important that the Department of Transportation take the necessary steps to review the circumstances surrounding these recent incidents and take the necessary corrective action. Attached for your signature is a memorandum to Secretary Coleman requesting a report on this situation.

It has been reviewed and approved by OMB (O'Neill). Paul Theis has approved the text.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend you sign the memorandum to Secretary Coleman.

② - Did we let Press office know about it?
yes

