

South African Transport Conference

“The Aviation Security challenges facing South Africa in the lead up to 2010”



Introduction



Fifa World Cup Germany 2006, Dr. Angela Merkel said the following:

- “Millions of people will be transfixed by this unique festival of sport and friendship”.
- Slogan - “A time to make friends”.
- “Our intention is to ensure that everyone revels in a secure and peaceful festival of football”.
- “We Germans will be right behind our national team, but our aim is to act as welcoming hosts and friends to every team and their fans”.

Comparisons



Many major sporting events – all need transport:

- Olympics
- Commonwealth Games
- Football World Cup
- Rugby World Cup
- Cricket World Cup

Common denominator is travel – transport to and from these events.

Comparisons (cont.)



2010 SA Web site stipulates the following about transport in South Africa:

- Public transport – “The minibus taxi network has a very high accident rate and many are not roadworthy, therefore they are not a safe option”.
- Railways – “Trains are dangerous” – “Enormous distances to be travelled”.
- Seaports – “Because of the great distances between seaports, travelling by sea is not viable”.
- Airports – “Johannesburg International Airport has been voted the best airport in Africa for 2 consecutive years”.

I believe that it will be a fair assumption, based on the above, that air transport will by far be the main mode of transport.

Historic Facts

We can NOT afford NOT to learn from the lessons of the past:

→ **Munich 1972 – Olympic Games:**

“They were supposed to celebrate peace. First ten days went well then on 5/9/1972, 8 Palestinian terrorists broke into the Olympic Village, killed 2 members of the Israeli team and took 9 hostage. It ended in all 9 hostages being killed as well as 5 terrorists and 1 policeman.”

Historic Facts (Cont.)

→ South Africa – 12/4/2001 – “The day soccer wept”:

- The most tragic in SA Sporting history.
- 43 dead and another 105 people injured.
- Commission of inquiry – 2 years of investigation finds a litany of critical errors and mistakes.
- Pres. T. Mbeki said at a wreath laying ceremony at Ellis Park stadium: “This is not the time to point fingers, but to be together as a nation and help one another heal”.

Lessons Learnt

Judicial commission headed by Transvaal Judge, President Bernard Ngoepe, highlighted 14 reasons for the worst ever sport carnage in the country:

1. Poor forecast of match attendance.
2. Failure to learn from lessons of the past (NB).
3. Failure by the role players to clearly identify and designate areas of responsibility. (NASP).
4. Absence of overall command of the JOC.

Lessons Learnt (Cont.)



5. The inappropriate and untimely announcement that tickets were sold out.
6. Failure to adhere to Fifa and Safa guidelines.
7. Unbecoming spectator behaviour.
8. Sale of tickets at the venue and unreserved seating.
9. The use of teargas or a similar substance.

Lessons Learnt (Cont.)

10. Corruption on the part of certain members of the security personnel.
11. Dereliction of duty on the part of certain security officials.
12. Failure to use the big screen to show the game.
13. Inadequate public address system.
14. Failure by the Public Order Policing Unit to react timeously and effectively.

In my opinion, this Judicial Commission and President Mbeki's encouragement, assisted rather than harmed our successful bid for the 2010 World Cup.

Aviation Security Challenges

1. Robbery 9/2004 – 3 Policemen shot during robbery at KLM flight at JIA.
2. Robbery 3/2006 – ACSA and airport security staff involved. False permits used. 6th major robbery in 5 years at JIA. This R103 million stolen from police by police at Benoni Police Station.
3. Vehicle theft.
4. Theft out of vehicles.
5. Baggage theft and pilferage.
6. Illegal touters, taxi's etc.
7. Peruvian gangs.
8. Corrupt officials and other airport staff.

The soccer world fans will be watching us

