

Committee Corner

News from ALPA's Committees

National Security Committee Convenes

The ALPA National Security Committee (NSC) met in Herndon, Va., in September for 3 days of security briefings by Committee members and ALPA staff, goal planning, and presentations by federal security representatives. The NSC meets twice a year to update MEC-level security committee chairmen and coordinators on security matters and national advocacy issues and to give them the opportunity to meet with their peers from other pilot groups and to participate on the NSC Security Council.

Capt. Bob Hesselbein (Northwest), NSC chairman, re-

ALPA National Security Committee

viewed NSC efforts and advocacy activities. Other speakers of note were Capt. Dennis Dolan, ALPA first vice-president, who discussed ALPA's involvement in security matters, and Jim Johnson, managing attorney in ALPA's Legal Department, who spoke on international challenges to gaining authority for armed pilots to travel outside the United States.

The ALPA Security Council met on 1 of the 3 days of the NSC meeting to review NSC goals and select a new chairman. Capt. Ed Folsom (United) was elected chairman and led the Council discussion of security and advocacy goals.

The Security Council reaffirmed the ongoing NSC efforts to improve screening access for pilots, enhance air cargo security, advocate Threatened Airspace Manage-



ment (TAM) procedures, prepare additional security white papers, and support Federal Flight Deck Officer (FFDO) enhancements.

The Council also encouraged a comprehensive legislative effort to ensure that the U.S. government mandates much-needed security improvements.

Senior leaders of the Federal Air Marshal Service (FAMS) met with the NSC to provide a comprehensive presentation on FAMS activities and goals for the FFDO program. They addressed the challenges of providing armed protec-

tion aboard airliners and the future of these unique programs, and answered many questions posed by ALPA pilots in the audience. The NSC meeting ended with the NSC Steering and Oversight Committee reviewing ongoing Committee processes.

Air Safety Leaders Meet

ALPA's Air Safety Committee's Steering & Oversight Committee met in September at the Association's Herndon, Va., office to discuss business and listen to presentations on matters of aviation safety. The members heard reports on the investigation into the Comair 5191 accident in Lexington, Ky.; Class B airspace excursion issues at Atlanta; B-787 development; NAV Canada controllers issuing conditional clearances; a Safety Management System/Safety Risk Analysis course presented in Vancouver; a Basic Safety Training course in Vancouver in August; difficulties related to programming RNAV departures; and membership in a new Royal Aeronautical Society group developing guidance on the use of simulators for specific training tasks.

Chairing the meeting was Executive Air Safety Chairman, Capt. Terry McVenes (US Airways), and attending were ALPA's vice-president-finance/treasurer, Capt. Chris

Air Safety Steering & Oversight Committee

Beebe; the chairs of the five Groups that make up the SOC; plus other key individuals within the Committee's structure and support staff.

ALPA's president, Capt. Duane Woerth, presented his perspective on the Association's work and the airline industry's status, and the chairmen of the Human Performance and National Security Committees discussed the major projects and activities in their respective areas.

Recognizing the challenges facing the Association in recruiting and retaining new safety representatives, the SOC decided to mount a new effort to promote volunteerism and pilot representative recognition.

The SOC continued an ongoing review aimed at streamlining how the Committee conducts its business and at creating synergies between the safety groups. A new Air Safety web page was being created and is expected to launch by Thanksgiving. The next Air Safety Forum is scheduled for the first full week of August 2007. 🌐