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¹Effectiveness of Airport Security before and After the Aviation and Transportation
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Effectiveness of Airport Security before and After the Aviation and Transportation Security Act

Introduction

The heinous terrorism act of September 11, 2001, prompted airport security to become a social problem. This act of cowardice saw a group of terrorists hijack three American owned planes and slammed them into Eastern seaboard's vital landmarks. This series of events culminated in thousands of Americans' deaths. However, it did not took long post these attacks that an act that would improve airport security as well as establish a legal department in charge of the projected security was signed into law by the then United States president George W. Bush. This act went by the appellation of the Aviation and Transportation Security Act of 2001. It is this act that established the Transportation Security Agency that up to date was vested with power and mandate to be accountable for all transportation security, counting airport security (Sweet, 2008).

At this juncture, it suffices to mention that the security of airports profoundly depends on baggage inspection besides searches conducted by human hands, a procedure that is gravely limited by the slipups that humans are certain to make. Thus, airport security remains predictable as well as ineffective as long as its process entails human involvement. Therefore, to ascertain security of airports to be more effective as well as stronger, there is a necessity for both technological integration and gradual minimization of human aspect.

Literature Review

Research by Blalock et al. (2007) offers an in-depth reflection on the journey of airport security amalgamation with technology. It reflects on the expedition as well as the immediate influence of the two Post-9/11 security measures in the aviation field. The duo comprises of the

federalization of travelers screening as well as luggage screening in America. It comprehensively adventures the phased outline of the above measures across the airports and their immediate economical impact on the airline business. The content of the journal is informative in shading light on the efforts various nations are making to overhaul airport security systems in an attempt to counter security threats. The information is critical in understanding steps airports could adopt to uphold their security as well as recuperate public confidence.

T.A.C.E.Y.L (2017) recounts the principles of airlines discovering their functions, influences spanning from economy as well as roles of political arena. This source also addresses the problems airlines faced during the aforementioned expedition, with international security emerging a chief menace. Besides, it goes on to offer a profound look into terrorism era and associated bearing on airfields. An account of the firsthand experience is elaborately inscribed by the author with an analogical exploration of experience garnered while she was working in an embassy in Turkey. Dynamic participation in commercial security facilitated the author to significantly contend on the theme, a component that saw her make dependable and unswerving urgings.

It is clear how Transportation Security Administration utilizes behavior detection in airports to aid spot suspicious action before it culminates into a threat to aviation security (Default & Jupe, 2018). It thus suffices to state that this study is a perfect instance of how practices could be developed and executed by an organization void of scientific backing. Also, it submits an inadequate dialogue, started by research scientists, with practitioners to sufficiently endorse technical acquaintance. Emphasis is laid on the need for research scientists as well as practitioners to copiously acknowledge each other's knowledge to come up with brilliant solutions in the sphere of global practice as well as create understandings to the theoretical

world. Similarly, the report indicates that absence of dialogue between practitioners and research scientists might be attributed to knowledge incorporation. Notably, the study indicates that failure by TSA and other law and security organizations to uphold evidence-based practices arising from study into deception recognition in their effort to maintain public safety could result in ominous penalties.

This study carried out by GAO revolved around the capability of the aviation workforce to successfully smuggle matters such as drugs as well as arsenals into the airports past the security barriers. The study indicated that officials hailing from ¹¹ the Transportation Security Administration as well as Department of Homeland security are the feebleness of their measures of security (GAO, 2016). Primarily, the study encompassed chiefly ¹¹ of the major airports in United States and spanned over a time-lapse of three years. The study is vitally important since it provides a damn sight of information on the laxation of airport security in the past several ages. This fundamental information indicates that many airports around the globe have commenced returning to procedures that prevailed before 9/11. It goes on to indicate airport security weaknesses resulting from hired staff. Moreover, it presents evidence-based information on quantity of illegitimate arsenals as well as drugs that have been trafficked into airports through airport personnel. Thus, this information calls for more strict security measures implementation when signing as well as maintaining airport personnel.

It is undisputed fact that dogs have played a significant role in airport security (Bonfanti, 2014). Their multi-purpose training in the law enforcement arena has enabled them to be reliable on uncovering substances as well as sniffing out ammos. Despite their celebrated support, in contrast to humans, they possess substantial confines. For instance, they can not multitask in case

of detecting several substances at ago. In addition, they easily get fatigued demanding regular switching post shorter time lengths. As a result, Transportation Security Administration has underway planned to supplant sniffer dogs with electronic devices with similar capacity of results. Electronic sniffers are capable of detecting several substances at ago. However, their introduction shall be a gradual process to alleviate animal stress but it shall end up permanently doing away with dogs. Based on the information this article relays, it is essential for my final paper as it provides relevant information on the electronic sniffers in utilization across the country and favorably compares their efficiency against that of dogs.

In an attempt, the effectiveness of current system of security present in modern airports, a study aimed at establishing the possibility of security disruption when introducing the new system to detect quantity of explosives was conducted. Contrary to the traditional inspection where passengers had to spent long hours to allow TSA officers to carnally carry out the search operation as well as test traces of explosives in luggage as and passengers' arms, the study indicated that inauguration of explosive trace detection (ETD) had a twofold advantage (Kierkowski & Kisiel, 2016). It saved passengers time at the secluded checkpoints as well as proved to be far more effective than humans. This is a significant study to my paper as it offers a comprehensive comparison between airports that utilized ETDs and those yet to adopt them. Additionally, it went further to indicate precisely that airports which utilized this technology saw all their passengers spent half an hour less at checkpoints stations as opposed to their counterparts. Subsequently, those who used ETDs traced and detected more explosives than those that did not.

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Lastly, in a study aimed to look into attempts for countries to unite to establish a standard airport security measure around the globe, it was evident that extremists targeted and exploited nations whose security measures were weak and easy to bypass (Glen, 2016). It depicts the UK's prime minister Teresa May who showed up in New York City to address UN delegates as well as charge stringent airport security measures. In her address, she asserts that the prevailing effective anti-terrorism measures in airports across the globe should speedily consider incorporating additional security checkpoints as well as screening. This is a significant piece too to my final paper as it vividly indicates how airport security is a societal issue. Specifically, it challenges the world on sturdy ground that terrorism is not only an American issue but also a global threat. likewise, it exposes how extremists' groups are determined to exploit feeble airport security measures. Strangely, the study indicates how critical airport security measures such as no liquids above one hundred milliliters on board are ignored in all countries without Europe and United States of America.

Research Question

The underlying research question upon which the above literature review is founded on is: What is 1 the effectiveness of airport security before and after the Aviation and Transportation Security Act?

Theoretical Framework

Queuing Theory And Queuing networks

Queuing theory and queuing networks is one of the techniques used to average systems' waiting period. This theory is the principal of operations research that utilizes stochastic modeling of queuing in versatile systems of production. By definition, queuing systems entail a Monte Carlo scrutiny to comprehend object arrival as well as service of objects based on

probability rather than a complete frequency (Xiao & Zhang, 2010). Queuing theory applications range from cafeterias, manufacturing, to peal gates. Queuing theory permits an examination of a system founded on a model of probability but not continuous advent and service periods. On the other hand, the assembling of dissimilar service procedures that are stochastic or reliant on other procedures and periods in the workstream is what underlines the concept of queuing networks (Heragu & Srinivasan, 2011).

The queuing theory is significant in this study due to its practical application in conventional queuing models found in present-day airports, and used in passenger security screening operation. This service facilitates mandatory availability of security checkpoints with consistent screening procedures leaving travelers with no replacements but to accept this service. In addition, contrary to use of sniffing dogs that come with aforementioned drawbacks, a practical application of queuing theory is more dependable than dogs or methods used before post-9/11 measures. Similarly, systems developed using this model can detect multiple substances as well as illegal weapons. In a nutshell, queuing theory application exemplifies all the deficiencies reviewed in the annotations above.

Hypotheses

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H₁: The effectiveness of airport security improved after the Aviation and Transportation Security Act.

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