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**COALITION OF AIRLINE PILOTS ASSOCIATIONS EXPRESSES CONCERN
OVER LATEST STOWAWAY INCIDENT**

**Trade group calls on Transportation Security Administration to establish vigorous,
multi-layered inspection process: “One level of security for both passenger and
cargo aircraft”**

Washington, D.C. (February 13, 2004)—The Coalition of Airline Pilots Associations (CAPA), a trade association representing 21,000 of the nation’s commercial airline pilots, issued the following statement in response to reports that three stowaways arrived at Miami International Airport from the Dominican Republic a few days ago aboard an all-cargo aircraft:

“The tremendous risks associated with lax cargo security were once again highlighted by the fact that three stowaways were recently able to ship themselves from the Dominican Republic to Miami. These individuals were hiding inside the cargo compartment with potential access to the cockpit. Clearly, cargo aircraft can be used as weapons of mass destruction—just as passenger aircraft were used in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. We are very concerned about this latest failure of the current cargo-screening program. Unlike passenger aircraft, however, cargo aircraft do not have strengthened cockpit doors, Federal Flight Deck Officers, Federal Air Marshals, trained cabin crew or vigilant passengers, which further underscores the need for effective cargo screening for any aircraft that carries cargo.

“According to a TSA official, an investigation of this alarming incident is underway. Whatever the TSA determines in the course of its investigation, it is apparent to CAPA that glaring deficiencies in cargo inspection remain. We therefore call on the

TSA to immediately focus on establishing a vigorous, multi-layered cargo inspection process that provides one level of security for both passenger and cargo aircraft.”

That is the full text of the statement.

CAPA represents the pilots of American Airlines, United Parcel Service, Airborne Express, Southwest Airlines, and Air Tran.

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