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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

September 9, 2002

Mr. A. T. Baker  
Director  
International Aviation Negotiations  
Department for Transport, Local  
Government and the Regions  
Great Minster House  
London SW1P 4DR  
England

OST - 2001-11029-185

Dear Tony:

We have carefully considered the proposal you presented at our August 15 meeting for a "limited agreement." After consultation with our airlines, airports, interested communities, and labor, we have concluded that the UK proposal, which you characterized as "take it or leave it in the main elements," cannot serve as a basis for initiating bilateral negotiations.

We continue to believe that Open Skies provides the best environment for developing the U.S.-UK aviation market in the interest of consumers, shippers, and the broader economies of both countries. We would welcome an opportunity to hold Open Skies negotiations with the UK or to discuss an all-cargo Open Skies agreement. What we seek is a truly transformative agreement that would consign Bermuda II, once and for all, to the history books.

Sincerely,

John R. Byerly  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Transportation Affairs

OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7-90)

FAX TRANSMITTAL

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To <i>MARY STIGES</i>	From <i>MATT FRANKS</i>
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Fax #	Fax #