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BEFORE THE DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DOCKET SECTION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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International Air Transport)
Association: Agreement Relating)
to Liability Limitations of the)
Warsaw Convention)

Docket OST-95-232 - 17
(49152)

**ANSWER OF BRITISH AIRWAYS PLC IN SUPPORT
OF THE REQUEST OF THE INTERNATIONAL AIR
TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION FOR EXTENSION OF
DISCUSSION AUTHORITY WITH ANTITRUST IMMUNITY**

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January 11, 1996

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DISCUSSION AUTHORITY WITH ANTITRUST IMMUNITY**

In its request dated December 22, 1995, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) seeks, among other things, extension of its discussion authority with antitrust immunity until April 1, 1996. British Airways PLC hereby supports IATA's request for such extension.

As the Department has acknowledged, IATA has made great progress toward achieving a liberalized liability system among the world's airlines. However, further discussion is needed to explore whether an intercarrier agreement on implementation is feasible. This should be completed quickly to maintain the momentum of IATA's efforts thus far.

British Airways agrees with the Department that
"...discussions under IATA auspices would best enhance the

likelihood of achieving the common goal of a uniform world-wide liability system..." (Order 95-12-14 at 3).

At this juncture, a "global" forum will allow timely and constructive debate on issues important to achieving the far reaching goals in the IATA Inter-carrier Agreement. Leadership by IATA, which the Department favors, is essential to this progress as is attracting a representative group of non-US carriers. British Airways understands that IATA proposes to commence a meeting of carriers in the very near future, subject to grant of the requested extension.

WHEREFORE, British Airways respectfully requests that the Department grant IATA's request for extension of its discussion authority with antitrust immunity until April 1, 1996.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have served the foregoing answer by telefax or by first class mail, postage prepaid on the following:

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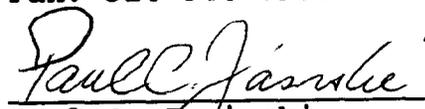
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