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CBS

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## Questions Raised About Airport Security

- CBS 3 Uncovers Potential Loophole Following Breach

Jul 29, 2004 11:20 pm US/Eastern

CBS 3 has uncovered a potential loophole in security at Philadelphia International Airport following the evacuation and re-screening of thousands of passengers.

Investigative Reporter Walt Hunter and CBS 3 has obtained confidential documents indicating a possible delay in alerting police after screeners saw what they thought was a gun.

Philadelphia police raced to checkpoint "C" Wednesday afternoon. In all, five terminals were evacuated after a Transportation Security Administration official gave notification that a passenger with a weapon may have slipped through security.

Hunter has learned that confidential police documents examined by CBS 3 raise serious questions about as to whether TSA officials waited before notifying police of the possible security breach. Ultimately, it was a delay that could have allowed a gun-carrying passenger to board a flight and take off.

According to the police report, Hunter cites statements by a US Airways worker and video surveillance raises the possibility that the gun was spotted as early as 1:43 p.m. but not reported to police until nearly 42-minutes later.

But Hunter reports that TSA officials insisted there was no delay, quoting "the fact of the matter is that it happened and at 2:25 p.m. police were notified immediately."

Fortunately, Hunter has learned that the gun image actually turned out to be a computer glitch and not a real weapon. Operations at the airport resumed after 30 minutes.

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