

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 8, 2005

Ms. Marion C. Blakey
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Administrator Blakey:

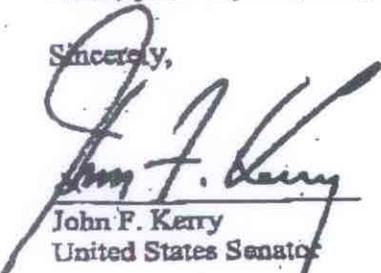
We write on behalf of [REDACTED], a resident of Brookline, Massachusetts whose brother [REDACTED] died on May 14, 2004, when the Mitsubishi MU-2 aircraft that he flew crashed on approach to Baltimore/Washington International Airport. [REDACTED] flew this aircraft on contract for the Federal Reserve, to which we send a copy of this letter.

The MU-2 has a disturbing statistical record in terms of safety. We understand that the aircraft has had ten crashes since 2004 that have resulted in ten deaths, and 188 crashes since 1962 that have killed 239 people. We also understand that six of our congressional colleagues from Colorado have written you regarding the MU-2 and received but one interim reply, an August 10 letter to Rep. Tancredo that we enclose for your review.

The mission of the FAA "is to provide the safest, most efficient aerospace system in the world." We have difficulty seeing why the FAA has not acted more assertively to determine whether the MU-2 has a place in the safest aerospace system of the world. Accordingly, we respectfully request that by the end of September you provide all of us with a detailed, substantive update of your evaluation of the MU-2's safety record. No more Americans should have to die piloting an MU-2 while the FAA fails to provide at least an outline of a safety review.

Please direct your reply to this letter to Mark S. Stemman of Sen. Kerry's Boston office, Thomas Crohan of Sen. Kennedy's Boston office, and Markus Rose of Rep. Frank's Washington office. Thank you for your prompt attention and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,


John F. Kerry
United States Senator


Edward M. Kennedy
United States Senator


Barney Frank
United States Representative

cc: David Balloff, Assistant Administrator for Government and Industry Affairs, FAA
Winthrop Hambley, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

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CONGRESSMAN TANCREDO

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U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Aviation
Administration

AUG 10 2005

The Honorable Thomas G. Tancredo
Member, United States House
of Representatives
240 Wilcox Street, Suite 111
Castle Rock, CO 80104

Dear Congressman Tancredo:

Thank you for your letters of June 23 and August 4 requesting immediate action be taken on the grounding of the Mitsubishi Heavy Industries MU-2B aircraft.

The recent increase in the accident rate for the MU-2 airplane warrants further evaluation by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The FAA has already begun an aggressive effort to reevaluate this issue with consideration of all the concerns you and other members of the Colorado congressional delegation have raised. We will determine the appropriate actions to take on the MU-2, up to, and including grounding, should information on the probable cause of these accidents warrant.

We will keep Administrator Blakey updated on the status of this evaluation and she will provide you with a more detailed response to your letters.

Sincerely,

Nicholas A. Sabatini
Nicholas A. Sabatini
Associate Administrator for
Aviation Safety

cc: Washington Office

Sept. 08, 2005
AOA-3 LOGIN

JOHN KERRY
MASSACHUSETTS

COMMITTEES:
COMMERCE, SCIENCE,
AND TRANSPORTATION
FINANCE
FOREIGN RELATIONS
SMALL BUSINESS

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2102

One Bowdoin Square
Tenth Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Date: 9/8/05

Please Deliver This Fax To: David Balloff

From: _____

Office of Senator John Kerry

Pages (Excluding This Cover): 2

COMMENTS: _____

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via fax at (617) 248-3870

Thank you

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