



# SAFETY



**SECURITY CHECKPOINT** Before anyone, and we mean **anyone**, gets onboard an airplane, they have to go through our Security Checkpoint. This area is at the mouth of the concourse. You will notice that there are signs in front of this location warning against weapons of any kind. The signs also warn against making jokes about carrying a weapon onboard. Because our number one priority is the passenger's safety, every passenger must walk through a metal detector or magnetometer before being able to board an airplane. This machine measures the level of metal on each person. There is a conveyor belt on which passengers must place their carry-on luggage, computers, briefcases, etc., so that the contents may be checked. Our Safety Officers have confiscated many weapons at our security checkpoint.

Remember, when you come to the airport, leave your toy guns and water pistols at home. Someone might think your toy is the real thing.



**SAFETY DEPARTMENT** McGhee Tyson Airport boasts one of the finest Fire and Safety Departments in the country. Our Public Safety Officers must be trained in three jobs: Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical Response. We have Safety Officers on duty around the clock. The fire trucks used at our Fire Station are very different from the ones found in your neighborhood. They are huge! Our firefighters carry water with them on the truck because there are no fire hydrants on the airfield. If we had a fire emergency at the airport, it would likely involve fuel because the airplanes carry an enormous amount of fuel in the wings and belly. Our firefighters also carry foam on the truck because water will only spread a fire fueled by gasoline. Since fire needs air in order to live, foam smothers the fire by sealing off oxygen.



Our Safety Officers are always here to assist not only the people who travel through our airport but also the people who work here every day.

**AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER** Every airport has an Air Traffic Control Tower. Ours is located across the airfield from our terminal building. The people who work in the tower are trained to help ensure that each airplane has a safe takeoff and safe landing. On their radar screens, Air Traffic Controllers are able to see every airplane within 10,000 feet above and 10,000 feet around the airport. They are able to guide airplanes that are in trouble safely to the ground, and make sure that no two planes ever travel too closely to each other.

The Air Traffic Control Tower is always the tallest building on airport property.

