



1  
00:00:01,000 --> 00:00:07,000  
[music playing]

2  
00:00:16,166 --> 00:00:18,166  
- Good morning.

3  
00:00:18,166 --> 00:00:22,900  
Welcome to the 2016  
NASA Ames Summer Series.

4  
00:00:22,900 --> 00:00:26,766  
We are very honored today  
to have a very special guest.

5  
00:00:26,766 --> 00:00:29,000  
Today's presentation  
will be given

6  
00:00:29,000 --> 00:00:31,400  
by the Honorable Norman Mineta,

7  
00:00:31,400 --> 00:00:33,100  
former cabinet member

8  
00:00:33,100 --> 00:00:35,500  
under former President  
George W. Bush

9  
00:00:35,500 --> 00:00:38,733  
and former President  
Bill Clinton.

10  
00:00:38,733 --> 00:00:43,133  
Mr. Norman Mineta served as the  
14th Secretary of Transportation

11  
00:00:43,133 --> 00:00:45,933  
under President George W. Bush,

12

00:00:45,933 --> 00:00:48,166

and is the longest-serving  
Secretary

13

00:00:48,166 --> 00:00:51,600

in the Department  
of Transportation's history.

14

00:00:51,600 --> 00:00:53,700

As Secretary of Transportation,

15

00:00:53,700 --> 00:00:57,166

Mr. Mineta was the point  
of contact for all aircraft

16

00:00:57,166 --> 00:01:00,466

during the September 11, 2001  
attacks,

17

00:01:00,466 --> 00:01:04,400

issuing an order to ground  
all civilian aircraft traffic

18

00:01:04,400 --> 00:01:08,366

for the first time  
in US history.

19

00:01:08,366 --> 00:01:11,533

Prior to serving  
under President George W. Bush,

20

00:01:11,533 --> 00:01:14,700

Mr. Mineta served  
under President Bill Clinton

21

00:01:14,700 --> 00:01:18,866

as the 33rd  
Secretary of Commerce.

22

00:01:18,866 --> 00:01:22,333  
Between 1971 and 1975,

23

00:01:22,333 --> 00:01:27,233  
Mr. Mineta served  
as the 59th Mayor of San Jose.

24

00:01:27,233 --> 00:01:30,566  
From 1975 to 1995,

25

00:01:30,566 --> 00:01:34,300  
he sat in the United States  
House of Representatives,

26

00:01:34,300 --> 00:01:39,033  
representing California's  
13th and 15th districts.

27

00:01:39,033 --> 00:01:40,966  
During World War II,

28

00:01:40,966 --> 00:01:44,000  
the Mineta family was interned  
for several years

29

00:01:44,000 --> 00:01:48,000  
at Area 24, 7th Barrack, Unit B

30

00:01:48,000 --> 00:01:50,333  
in the Heart Mountain  
Internment Camp

31

00:01:50,333 --> 00:01:52,533  
near Cody, Wyoming,

32

00:01:52,533 --> 00:01:55,100  
along with thousands  
of other Japanese immigrants

33

00:01:55,100 --> 00:01:57,466  
and Japanese-Americans.

34

00:01:57,466 --> 00:01:59,500  
Mr. Mineta was a driving force

35

00:01:59,500 --> 00:02:04,433  
behind the passage of the  
Civil Liberties Act of 1988,

36

00:02:04,433 --> 00:02:07,366  
which officially apologized for  
and redressed

37

00:02:07,366 --> 00:02:11,433  
the injustices endured  
by the Japanese-Americans

38

00:02:11,433 --> 00:02:13,933  
during World War II.

39

00:02:13,933 --> 00:02:16,566  
Mr. Mineta is also  
a former vice president

40

00:02:16,566 --> 00:02:19,366  
of Lockheed Martin Corporation.

41

00:02:19,366 --> 00:02:20,966  
Mr. Mineta graduated

42

00:02:20,966 --> 00:02:23,533  
from University of California,  
Berkeley,

43

00:02:23,533 --> 00:02:25,500  
School of Business  
Administration.

44

00:02:25,500 --> 00:02:29,833  
We are very pleased to welcome  
Mr. Mineta here today.

45  
00:02:29,833 --> 00:02:32,833  
[applause]

46  
00:02:34,566 --> 00:02:36,300  
- Thanks, Aga.

47  
00:02:40,933 --> 00:02:46,533  
Aga, thank you very much  
for your wonderful introduction.

48  
00:02:48,133 --> 00:02:52,966  
I--having been born and raised  
here in San Jose, California,

49  
00:02:52,966 --> 00:02:57,833  
I'm really pleased to be here  
at NASA Ames Research Center.

50  
00:02:57,833 --> 00:03:02,400  
There were times during  
my 11 terms in Congress

51  
00:03:02,400 --> 00:03:07,400  
that I came here to NASA Ames  
a number of times

52  
00:03:07,400 --> 00:03:11,366  
because the center director  
was Hans Mark,

53  
00:03:11,366 --> 00:03:16,700  
and Hans and I were students  
together at Berkeley.

54  
00:03:16,700 --> 00:03:20,000  
So, that friendship carried on

from Berkeley to here,

55

00:03:20,000 --> 00:03:21,233  
and then when he became

56

00:03:21,233 --> 00:03:23,033  
Assistant Secretary  
of the Air Force.

57

00:03:23,033 --> 00:03:25,766  
And I remember when I was  
a member

58

00:03:25,766 --> 00:03:27,833  
of the House Intelligence  
Committee,

59

00:03:27,833 --> 00:03:30,233  
and he had told me he was coming

60

00:03:30,233 --> 00:03:32,766  
as the Assistant Secretary  
of the Air Force,

61

00:03:32,766 --> 00:03:35,666  
and we were having a hearing

62

00:03:35,666 --> 00:03:37,133  
of the House Intelligence  
Committee,

63

00:03:37,133 --> 00:03:38,833  
and Hans was there,  
and I said,

64

00:03:38,833 --> 00:03:41,066  
"Hans, what are you doing here?"

65

00:03:41,066 --> 00:03:44,533

He said, "Well, I couldn't tell you why I was here."

66

00:03:44,533 --> 00:03:49,266

And in those days,  
the word "NRO" was classified,

67

00:03:49,266 --> 00:03:54,866

as well as the "National  
Reconnaissance Office."

68

00:03:54,866 --> 00:03:59,000

So, outside the committee room,  
we couldn't even say "NRO"

69

00:03:59,000 --> 00:04:01,933

or "National Reconnaissance  
Office."

70

00:04:01,933 --> 00:04:07,333

And I found out that he was  
the head of the NRO

71

00:04:07,333 --> 00:04:10,700

when he came to D.C.

72

00:04:10,700 --> 00:04:15,266

Well, I am not a scientist  
by background.

73

00:04:15,266 --> 00:04:17,066

When I was in high school,

74

00:04:17,066 --> 00:04:22,466

my dad, who had been in the  
insurance business from 1920,

75

00:04:22,466 --> 00:04:24,500

said, you know,  
"I want you to join me

76

00:04:24,500 --> 00:04:26,166  
in the insurance business."

77

00:04:26,166 --> 00:04:27,533  
And I said, "No, no, Papa.

78

00:04:27,533 --> 00:04:30,233  
I want to be  
an aeronautical engineer."

79

00:04:30,233 --> 00:04:32,333  
So, I started at Berkeley

80

00:04:32,333 --> 00:04:37,200  
in aeronautical engineering,

81

00:04:37,200 --> 00:04:41,566  
took calculus,

82

00:04:41,566 --> 00:04:44,600  
and then I decided,  
for the safety of the country...

83

00:04:44,600 --> 00:04:45,766  
[laughter]

84

00:04:45,766 --> 00:04:47,000  
And my own future,

85

00:04:47,000 --> 00:04:49,433  
I better find something else  
to do.

86

00:04:49,433 --> 00:04:54,100  
So, I ended up  
in the insurance business,

87

00:04:54,100 --> 00:04:59,133  
served--graduated from Berkeley  
with an ROTC commission.

88  
00:04:59,133 --> 00:05:01,000  
The Korean War was going on,

89  
00:05:01,000 --> 00:05:04,166  
and went straight overseas  
to Korea,

90  
00:05:04,166 --> 00:05:06,300  
and then transferred to Japan,

91  
00:05:06,300 --> 00:05:09,500  
and--from '54 to '56,

92  
00:05:09,500 --> 00:05:11,600  
and then came back  
and joined my dad

93  
00:05:11,600 --> 00:05:16,933  
in the insurance business  
in 1956.

94  
00:05:16,933 --> 00:05:21,433  
Little by little, I started  
getting active in the community,

95  
00:05:21,433 --> 00:05:25,200  
and in 1967,  
we had our first

96  
00:05:25,200 --> 00:05:27,900  
directly elected Mayor  
of San Jose.

97  
00:05:27,900 --> 00:05:32,933  
And so that created a vacancy  
on the city council.

98

00:05:32,933 --> 00:05:34,200

So the new mayor

99

00:05:34,200 --> 00:05:37,933

and two incumbent members  
of the city council

100

00:05:37,933 --> 00:05:39,833

came to me and said,

101

00:05:39,833 --> 00:05:42,400

"Would you consider  
putting your name in

102

00:05:42,400 --> 00:05:45,300

for that city council vacancy?

103

00:05:45,300 --> 00:05:46,600

Because we're going  
to interview

104

00:05:46,600 --> 00:05:48,300

a number of candidates,

105

00:05:48,300 --> 00:05:51,500

and we'd like to have you  
in that mix."

106

00:05:51,500 --> 00:05:54,800

So, I said, "Well, I better talk  
to my dad about that first

107

00:05:54,800 --> 00:05:57,933

since I'm in business with him,"

108

00:05:57,933 --> 00:06:04,000

and so when I talked to my dad,  
he said, you know,

109

00:06:04,000 --> 00:06:08,833

"We can decide how to manage  
the insurance business,

110

00:06:08,833 --> 00:06:12,200

but there's an old adage  
in Japan

111

00:06:12,200 --> 00:06:14,766

about people in politics:

112

00:06:14,766 --> 00:06:16,266

if you're in politics,

113

00:06:16,266 --> 00:06:19,800

you're gonna be like that nail  
sticking out of the board."

114

00:06:19,800 --> 00:06:22,133

He says, "You know what happens  
to that nail?"

115

00:06:22,133 --> 00:06:24,400

It always gets pounded.

116

00:06:24,400 --> 00:06:27,633

Now, do you think you'd enjoy  
being pounded

117

00:06:27,633 --> 00:06:31,666

by your friends, your neighbors,  
and constituents?"

118

00:06:31,666 --> 00:06:37,666

And I said, "Well, it's only  
for a two-year unexpired term,

119

00:06:37,666 --> 00:06:40,900

and I can still stay active  
in the insurance business.

120  
00:06:40,900 --> 00:06:46,900  
And so let me--  
let me see if I can do it."

121  
00:06:46,900 --> 00:06:49,066  
So he said, "Okay,"  
and I applied

122  
00:06:49,066 --> 00:06:52,100  
and was appointed  
to fill that vacancy.

123  
00:06:52,100 --> 00:06:54,133  
And I did enjoy it.

124  
00:06:54,133 --> 00:06:59,533  
So, in 1969, I then ran  
for a full four-year term

125  
00:06:59,533 --> 00:07:03,600  
and won the election.

126  
00:07:03,600 --> 00:07:08,233  
And then in 1971, the mayor  
who had been elected in '67

127  
00:07:08,233 --> 00:07:12,433  
decided not to seek re-election.

128  
00:07:12,433 --> 00:07:16,333  
And by that time, I had been  
the vice mayor of San Jose,

129  
00:07:16,333 --> 00:07:18,966  
and a lot of people said,  
"Run for mayor,"

130

00:07:18,966 --> 00:07:23,366

so I did, and I was elected  
in '71 as mayor.

131

00:07:23,366 --> 00:07:25,366

And I really enjoyed it

132

00:07:25,366 --> 00:07:28,100

because we were making  
that transition

133

00:07:28,100 --> 00:07:32,033

from an agricultural community  
to high tech,

134

00:07:32,033 --> 00:07:34,466

so when I first became mayor,

135

00:07:34,466 --> 00:07:37,400

the population was  
about 320,000.

136

00:07:37,400 --> 00:07:41,966

And in that four years,  
it had risen to 580,000.

137

00:07:41,966 --> 00:07:44,766

So, whenever you see  
a city grow,

138

00:07:44,766 --> 00:07:47,366

you want to see it grow  
gracefully

139

00:07:47,366 --> 00:07:48,833

and not without warts,

140

00:07:48,833 --> 00:07:52,000

so you have to make sure

that the roads are in place,

141

00:07:52,000 --> 00:07:55,433

sewage treatment system is gonna  
be able to handle

142

00:07:55,433 --> 00:07:57,933

the capacity of the community,

143

00:07:57,933 --> 00:07:59,966

parks, branch libraries--

144

00:07:59,966 --> 00:08:02,966

and it was  
really an exciting time,

145

00:08:02,966 --> 00:08:04,800

and I really enjoyed it.

146

00:08:04,800 --> 00:08:10,000

And so during that--

147

00:08:10,000 --> 00:08:12,233

it was really 3 1/2 years,

148

00:08:12,233 --> 00:08:15,533

not quite a full four-year term,

149

00:08:15,533 --> 00:08:21,066

and then in 1974,  
I was elected to the Congress.

150

00:08:21,066 --> 00:08:27,033

Now, I just give you this  
as background because the--

151

00:08:27,033 --> 00:08:30,000

what I consider--  
what I like to talk about

152

00:08:30,000 --> 00:08:35,466  
are the whole issue  
of national security,

153

00:08:35,466 --> 00:08:40,833  
transportation,  
and civil rights.

154

00:08:40,833 --> 00:08:45,933  
So, this is not gonna be  
a science-oriented discussion,

155

00:08:45,933 --> 00:08:49,466  
as you've had in your wonderful  
Summer Series.

156

00:08:49,466 --> 00:08:51,066  
And I'm really pleased  
to be asked

157

00:08:51,066 --> 00:08:54,633  
to be part  
of the Summer Series talks.

158

00:08:54,633 --> 00:08:59,800  
But probably the most seminal  
moment in my life was

159

00:08:59,800 --> 00:09:03,800  
December 7, 1941.

160

00:09:03,800 --> 00:09:06,400  
We had just returned  
from church,

161

00:09:06,400 --> 00:09:10,433  
and it was probably 12:15,  
12:30.

162

00:09:10,433 --> 00:09:14,033

The radio was already talking  
about the attack

163

00:09:14,033 --> 00:09:16,666

by the Japanese at Pearl Harbor.

164

00:09:16,666 --> 00:09:22,300

And my dad being a community  
leader, people were calling in

165

00:09:22,300 --> 00:09:26,400

to wonder, "What's the impact of  
what's happening in Pearl Harbor

166

00:09:26,400 --> 00:09:28,100

going to be on us?"

167

00:09:28,100 --> 00:09:33,000

And people would drop by  
the house during that day.

168

00:09:33,000 --> 00:09:35,166

And about 2:00,

169

00:09:35,166 --> 00:09:38,666

our next-door neighbor,  
Joyce Hirano,

170

00:09:38,666 --> 00:09:42,633

came running in the back door  
of our kitchen.

171

00:09:42,633 --> 00:09:45,000

And we had a hedge  
between our two homes

172

00:09:45,000 --> 00:09:49,066

with a little cutout down below

so that Irving and Joyce

173

00:09:49,066 --> 00:09:52,566  
from next door, or me,  
we can go back and forth

174

00:09:52,566 --> 00:09:54,866  
between our two homes.

175

00:09:54,866 --> 00:09:58,200  
And so she came running  
in our house saying, "The police

176

00:09:58,200 --> 00:09:59,333  
are taking Papa away!

177

00:09:59,333 --> 00:10:01,233  
The police are taking Papa  
away!"

178

00:10:01,233 --> 00:10:05,233  
So my dad ran out of our house,  
went next door,

179

00:10:05,233 --> 00:10:08,900  
and by that time,  
Mr. Hirano was gone.

180

00:10:08,900 --> 00:10:12,233  
No one knew who came  
and picked him up.

181

00:10:12,233 --> 00:10:16,266  
And so he came home  
and he called the city manager,

182

00:10:16,266 --> 00:10:19,233  
and said--and asked  
the city manager about this,

183

00:10:19,233 --> 00:10:22,800

and he said, "I don't know what you're even talking about."

184

00:10:22,800 --> 00:10:26,166

He said, "But talk to the chief of police."

185

00:10:26,166 --> 00:10:29,600

So my dad talked to Chief of Police Black

186

00:10:29,600 --> 00:10:31,566

and he said, "I don't know anything about it,

187

00:10:31,566 --> 00:10:34,333

but you ought to talk to Sheriff Emig."

188

00:10:34,333 --> 00:10:37,166

So he calls Sheriff Emig, and Sheriff Emig said,

189

00:10:37,166 --> 00:10:40,566

"I know what's going on. It's not my operation.

190

00:10:40,566 --> 00:10:42,233

It's FBI.

191

00:10:42,233 --> 00:10:45,333

And I'll talk to the FBI

192

00:10:45,333 --> 00:10:47,700

and have them come talk to you."

193

00:10:47,700 --> 00:10:50,100

Well, about 4:00

that afternoon,

194

00:10:50,100 --> 00:10:54,533

the FBI agent actually came  
to the house and said

195

00:10:54,533 --> 00:10:58,066

that they were picking up people  
who they thought might be

196

00:10:58,066 --> 00:11:00,900

sympathetic  
to the Japanese cause,

197

00:11:00,900 --> 00:11:03,700

and community leaders.

198

00:11:03,700 --> 00:11:06,300

Well, my dad sort of felt  
insulted,

199

00:11:06,300 --> 00:11:09,333

because he felt himself to be  
a community leader,

200

00:11:09,333 --> 00:11:15,100

and yet the FBI wasn't talking  
to him or picking him up.

201

00:11:15,100 --> 00:11:16,333

[scattered laughter]

202

00:11:16,333 --> 00:11:18,933

So, after the FBI agent left,

203

00:11:18,933 --> 00:11:22,166

my mother and dad packed up  
a suitcase

204

00:11:22,166 --> 00:11:25,333  
just in case the FBI came back,

205

00:11:25,333 --> 00:11:28,300  
which, fortunately, they didn't.

206

00:11:28,300 --> 00:11:32,333  
But the whole Japanese-American  
community was

207

00:11:32,333 --> 00:11:35,833  
pretty much in turmoil  
after that.

208

00:11:35,833 --> 00:11:39,066  
And there was  
a commanding general

209

00:11:39,066 --> 00:11:41,766  
of the Western Civil Defense  
Command

210

00:11:41,766 --> 00:11:47,066  
by the name of Lieutenant  
General John DeWitt.

211

00:11:47,066 --> 00:11:52,600  
And that covered Washington,  
Oregon, and California.

212

00:11:52,600 --> 00:11:58,400  
And he had coined the phrase  
"Once a J-A-P, always a J-A-P."

213

00:11:58,400 --> 00:12:04,166  
And he thought, "If they could  
attack Pearl Harbor, they could

214

00:12:04,166 --> 00:12:06,666  
probably attack the west coast

of the United States.

215

00:12:06,666 --> 00:12:11,266

And if they attack the  
west coast of the United States,

216

00:12:11,266 --> 00:12:15,933

what am I gonna do with 120,000  
people of Japanese ancestry

217

00:12:15,933 --> 00:12:20,100

living in Washington, Oregon,  
and California?"

218

00:12:20,100 --> 00:12:27,100

And on February 12 of 1942,

219

00:12:27,100 --> 00:12:32,366

President Roosevelt signed  
Executive Order 9066,

220

00:12:32,366 --> 00:12:35,333

delegating  
to the Secretary of War

221

00:12:35,333 --> 00:12:39,900

the ability to evacuate  
and intern "persons."

222

00:12:39,900 --> 00:12:43,466

It didn't say German, Italian,  
or Japanese.

223

00:12:43,466 --> 00:12:45,433

It just said "persons."

224

00:12:45,433 --> 00:12:51,700

Well, General DeWitt used  
Executive Order 9066

225

00:12:51,700 --> 00:12:57,633  
to commandeer racetracks  
and county fairgrounds

226

00:12:57,633 --> 00:13:01,633  
in Washington, Oregon,  
and California,

227

00:13:01,633 --> 00:13:07,933  
and ordered the evacuation  
of those of Japanese ancestry.

228

00:13:07,933 --> 00:13:10,100  
And I remember  
when those signs went up.

229

00:13:10,100 --> 00:13:12,333  
They were big placards,  
and it said,

230

00:13:12,333 --> 00:13:16,266  
"Instructions to all those  
of Japanese ancestry,

231

00:13:16,266 --> 00:13:19,100  
alien and non-alien."

232

00:13:19,100 --> 00:13:22,633  
As a ten-year-old kid, I looked  
at that sign and I said,

233

00:13:22,633 --> 00:13:26,500  
"What's a non-alien?"

234

00:13:26,500 --> 00:13:30,133  
And my brother  
was nine years older than me,

235

00:13:30,133 --> 00:13:33,233

and he said,  
"That's you, a citizen."

236  
00:13:33,233 --> 00:13:36,500  
I said, "Well, why aren't they  
calling me a citizen?"

237  
00:13:36,500 --> 00:13:42,966  
Now, I'm not sure when the  
last time any of you stood up,

238  
00:13:42,966 --> 00:13:44,900  
pounded your chest, and said,

239  
00:13:44,900 --> 00:13:48,433  
"I'm a proud non-alien of  
the United States of America!"

240  
00:13:48,433 --> 00:13:49,500  
[audience laughs]

241  
00:13:49,500 --> 00:13:51,133  
I don't think you have.

242  
00:13:51,133 --> 00:13:54,800  
And that's why, to this day,  
I cherish the word "citizen,"

243  
00:13:54,800 --> 00:13:59,500  
because our own government  
wasn't willing to use

244  
00:13:59,500 --> 00:14:03,433  
the word "citizen"  
in describing those of us

245  
00:14:03,433 --> 00:14:06,466  
who were American citizens,  
born here,

246

00:14:06,466 --> 00:14:09,166  
but of Japanese ancestry.

247

00:14:09,166 --> 00:14:13,100  
And so all of a sudden,  
here were 120,000 people,

248

00:14:13,100 --> 00:14:15,600  
because we looked  
like the people

249

00:14:15,600 --> 00:14:18,133  
who attacked Pearl Harbor,

250

00:14:18,133 --> 00:14:23,000  
being forcibly removed  
from our homes and evacuated,

251

00:14:23,000 --> 00:14:28,100  
and put into racetracks  
and county fairgrounds.

252

00:14:28,100 --> 00:14:32,100  
The reason those facilities  
were commandeered was

253

00:14:32,100 --> 00:14:35,000  
because they had built-in  
living quarters,

254

00:14:35,000 --> 00:14:37,133  
namely the horse stables.

255

00:14:37,133 --> 00:14:40,966  
And so by the time we were being  
evacuated from San Jose,

256

00:14:40,966 --> 00:14:44,400  
that was May 29, 1942--

257

00:14:44,400 --> 00:14:47,900  
and so we boarded the train  
here in San Jose

258

00:14:47,900 --> 00:14:50,833  
and went down to Los Angeles

259

00:14:50,833 --> 00:14:57,233  
to the Santa Anita racetrack,  
where we were interned.

260

00:14:59,066 --> 00:15:02,000  
Luckily, by the time  
we got to Santa Anita,

261

00:15:02,000 --> 00:15:06,466  
all the horse stables  
had been occupied,

262

00:15:06,466 --> 00:15:10,433  
and so they had some barracks  
buildings that were built

263

00:15:10,433 --> 00:15:13,566  
in the parking lot  
at Santa Anita racetrack,

264

00:15:13,566 --> 00:15:18,866  
and so our family was put  
into those--

265

00:15:18,866 --> 00:15:23,300  
into those barracks buildings.

266

00:15:23,300 --> 00:15:26,966  
Now, by November of...

267

00:15:26,966 --> 00:15:31,666

'42...

268

00:15:31,666 --> 00:15:36,600  
we were moved from Santa Anita  
to Heart Mountain, Wyoming.

269

00:15:36,600 --> 00:15:42,266  
And Heart Mountain is about  
20 miles east of Cody, Wyoming.

270

00:15:42,266 --> 00:15:46,333  
And Cody is about 25 miles east

271

00:15:46,333 --> 00:15:49,833  
of Yellowstone National Park.

272

00:15:49,833 --> 00:15:52,633  
And so--excuse me--

273

00:15:52,633 --> 00:15:55,833  
so we got there  
in November of '42.

274

00:15:55,833 --> 00:15:58,666  
Cold, blustery day.

275

00:15:58,666 --> 00:16:03,800  
And that sand was pelting  
our faces, and--

276

00:16:03,800 --> 00:16:05,100  
oh, thank you--

277

00:16:05,100 --> 00:16:10,933  
and the sage brush  
was tumbling along,

278

00:16:10,933 --> 00:16:15,100  
and being Californians,

we just weren't

279

00:16:15,100 --> 00:16:18,033  
used to this kind of  
California--or Wyoming weather.

280

00:16:24,100 --> 00:16:27,666  
And we didn't have clothing  
to really help us

281

00:16:27,666 --> 00:16:31,800  
or protect us from that cold.

282

00:16:31,800 --> 00:16:37,866  
So we were  
in these barracks buildings now

283

00:16:37,866 --> 00:16:40,966  
for the duration  
of World War II,

284

00:16:40,966 --> 00:16:47,966  
and in order to keep the young  
girls and boys occupied,

285

00:16:47,966 --> 00:16:51,366  
the camp elders had written  
to the Boy Scouts of America

286

00:16:51,366 --> 00:16:55,500  
and Girl Scouts, and said,  
"Come and organize troops

287

00:16:55,500 --> 00:16:56,800  
in the camp."

288

00:16:56,800 --> 00:16:59,366  
So, we had seven or eight  
Boy Scout troops.

289

00:16:59,366 --> 00:17:02,100

And our leaders would write  
to the Boy Scouts

290

00:17:02,100 --> 00:17:04,733

in the surrounding community

291

00:17:04,733 --> 00:17:08,200

in Ralston, Deaver, Cody,  
and other communities,

292

00:17:08,200 --> 00:17:13,666

saying come on in and join us  
for our jamboree.

293

00:17:13,666 --> 00:17:15,400

And they would write back  
and say, "Oh, no, no,

294

00:17:15,400 --> 00:17:16,833

we're not gonna go in there.

295

00:17:16,833 --> 00:17:18,766

There's barbed wire  
all around the camp.

296

00:17:18,766 --> 00:17:21,900

There are military guard towers  
every 300 feet

297

00:17:21,900 --> 00:17:24,133

with search lights  
and machine guns.

298

00:17:24,133 --> 00:17:27,500

Those are POWs.

We're not gonna go in there."

299

00:17:27,500 --> 00:17:30,033

And our scout leaders  
write back saying,

300

00:17:30,033 --> 00:17:33,566

"No, no, these are not POWs.  
They're Boy Scouts of America.

301

00:17:33,566 --> 00:17:36,166

They wear the same uniform  
you do,

302

00:17:36,166 --> 00:17:38,466

they read the same manual  
you do,

303

00:17:38,466 --> 00:17:41,866

and they go after  
the same merit badges you do."

304

00:17:44,166 --> 00:17:48,433

And so eventually a troop  
from Cody, Wyoming, came in.

305

00:17:48,433 --> 00:17:50,600

And we had  
our knot-tying contests

306

00:17:50,600 --> 00:17:52,766

and our woodworking contests

307

00:17:52,766 --> 00:17:55,333

and how to start a fire  
without a match,

308

00:17:55,333 --> 00:17:58,433

and all those things  
that Boy Scouts do.

309

00:17:58,433 --> 00:17:59,600

And then we got paired off

310

00:17:59,600 --> 00:18:05,366

with a kid  
from the Cody Boy Scout troop.

311

00:18:05,366 --> 00:18:08,366

And so this kid and I put up  
our tent.

312

00:18:08,366 --> 00:18:11,866

And in Wyoming, it could rain  
a lot, or not rain,

313

00:18:11,866 --> 00:18:14,866

and so in order  
to protect your tent,

314

00:18:14,866 --> 00:18:18,933

you build a moat  
around the tent.

315

00:18:18,933 --> 00:18:21,233

So this kid and I build  
our moat.

316

00:18:21,233 --> 00:18:23,366

Then he said,

317

00:18:23,366 --> 00:18:25,766

"There's a kid from my troop  
in that tent below us,

318

00:18:25,766 --> 00:18:27,766

and I don't really care  
for him.

319

00:18:27,766 --> 00:18:30,900

Would you mind if we cut  
the water to exit that way

320

00:18:30,900 --> 00:18:32,533

just in case it rained?"

321

00:18:32,533 --> 00:18:35,500

And it was

really no skin off my nose,

322

00:18:35,500 --> 00:18:37,433

so I said, "Sure."

323

00:18:37,433 --> 00:18:40,433

So, we built a beautiful moat,

324

00:18:40,433 --> 00:18:43,700

cut the water to exit that way,

and as luck would have it,

325

00:18:43,700 --> 00:18:45,433

it started raining that night.

326

00:18:45,433 --> 00:18:47,000

[laughter]

327

00:18:47,000 --> 00:18:50,966

And our moat worked perfectly,

and water drained down there.

328

00:18:52,966 --> 00:18:56,633

During the course of the night,

that tent came down.

329

00:18:56,633 --> 00:18:59,800

The tent pegs pulled.

The tent came down.

330

00:18:59,800 --> 00:19:03,400

The kid's in my tent with me

going, "He-he-he,

331

00:19:03,400 --> 00:19:07,866

ha-ha-ha, ho-ho-ho!"

laughing all night long,

332

00:19:07,866 --> 00:19:10,200

and I finally said to him,

"Alan, would you please shut up

333

00:19:10,200 --> 00:19:12,500

so we get some rest?"

334

00:19:12,500 --> 00:19:15,366

His name was Alan Simpson.

335

00:19:15,366 --> 00:19:19,300

And he eventually became

a US senator from Wyoming.

336

00:19:19,300 --> 00:19:20,800

[laughter]

337

00:19:20,800 --> 00:19:23,566

In 1974,

I was elected to the House.

338

00:19:23,566 --> 00:19:27,466

In 1978, he was elected

to the Senate.

339

00:19:27,466 --> 00:19:29,033

And our friendship went back

340

00:19:29,033 --> 00:19:33,200

as if we were still sitting

in that pup tent in 1943.

341

00:19:33,200 --> 00:19:36,000

And to this day, we're still

the closest of friends.

342

00:19:36,000 --> 00:19:40,100

In fact, last December,  
we went on a--

343

00:19:40,100 --> 00:19:41,333

at least once a year,

344

00:19:41,333 --> 00:19:45,066

we always take a vacation  
somewhere together.

345

00:19:45,066 --> 00:19:49,033

And last December,  
we took a two-week cruise

346

00:19:49,033 --> 00:19:51,700

in the first two weeks  
of December,

347

00:19:51,700 --> 00:19:55,433

and we still maintain this  
wonderful, wonderful friendship.

348

00:19:57,433 --> 00:20:01,233

Well, let's fast-forward

349

00:20:01,233 --> 00:20:04,600

to 9/11, 2001.

350

00:20:04,600 --> 00:20:07,466

I was  
Secretary of Transportation,

351

00:20:07,466 --> 00:20:10,366

and I was having breakfast  
that morning

352

00:20:10,366 --> 00:20:15,333

with the Deputy Prime Minister  
of Belgium,

353

00:20:15,333 --> 00:20:18,666

who was also  
the Minister of Transport.

354

00:20:18,666 --> 00:20:21,333

And I had with me Jane Garvey,

355

00:20:21,333 --> 00:20:24,900

the head of the Federal Aviation  
Administration.

356

00:20:24,900 --> 00:20:30,933

And about 8:15, 8:30,

357

00:20:30,933 --> 00:20:33,866

my chief of staff came in  
and said,

358

00:20:33,866 --> 00:20:35,733

"Mr. Secretary, may I see you?"

359

00:20:35,733 --> 00:20:39,433

So, I excused myself,

360

00:20:39,433 --> 00:20:41,866

went from the conference room  
into my office,

361

00:20:41,866 --> 00:20:45,466

and at the other end  
of the office was a TV console.

362

00:20:45,466 --> 00:20:50,400

Recognizable World Trade Center  
building,

363

00:20:50,400 --> 00:20:52,200  
black smoke pouring out.

364  
00:20:52,200 --> 00:20:54,433  
I said, "What's all that about?"

365  
00:20:54,433 --> 00:20:57,233  
He said, "We don't know.  
We've heard the possibility

366  
00:20:57,233 --> 00:20:59,000  
of general aviation  
into the building,

367  
00:20:59,000 --> 00:21:01,733  
commercial aviation  
into the building,

368  
00:21:01,733 --> 00:21:06,566  
or an internal explosion  
inside the building."

369  
00:21:06,566 --> 00:21:10,500  
So, I looked at the TV  
and did some channel surfing,

370  
00:21:10,500 --> 00:21:12,966  
listening to the commentary.

371  
00:21:12,966 --> 00:21:15,200  
So I said,  
"John, keep me posted.

372  
00:21:15,200 --> 00:21:17,166  
I'm going back  
into the breakfast."

373  
00:21:17,166 --> 00:21:19,766  
So, I went back in  
and explained to Mrs. Durant

374

00:21:19,766 --> 00:21:21,166  
and to Jane Garvey

375

00:21:21,166 --> 00:21:24,066  
what I had just seen on TV.

376

00:21:26,000 --> 00:21:27,466  
Seven, eight, ten minutes later,

377

00:21:27,466 --> 00:21:29,466  
he came back in and said,  
"May I see you?"

378

00:21:29,466 --> 00:21:31,766  
So, I went back into the office.

379

00:21:31,766 --> 00:21:35,633  
And he said,  
"It was a commercial airliner

380

00:21:35,633 --> 00:21:38,566  
that went  
into the World Trade Center."

381

00:21:38,566 --> 00:21:43,700  
So then I went up  
and I started listening

382

00:21:43,700 --> 00:21:47,066  
to the commentary  
and watching the news.

383

00:21:52,866 --> 00:21:56,066  
And as I'm standing there  
watching,

384

00:21:56,066 --> 00:21:59,900  
I see this gray object come

across the screen and disappear,

385

00:21:59,900 --> 00:22:02,366

and then from this side  
of the screen,

386

00:22:02,366 --> 00:22:07,066

this white-yellow-orangey  
billowy cloud.

387

00:22:07,066 --> 00:22:10,066

I go, "Holy cow,  
what was all that about?"

388

00:22:10,066 --> 00:22:12,800

Or words to that effect.

389

00:22:12,800 --> 00:22:17,033

And so then I really started  
listening to the commentary

390

00:22:17,033 --> 00:22:18,933

and watching the news,

391

00:22:18,933 --> 00:22:24,366

and so after doing that  
for five, seven minutes,

392

00:22:24,366 --> 00:22:26,533

I went back into  
the conference room and I said,

393

00:22:26,533 --> 00:22:29,066

"I don't know what's going on  
in New York City,

394

00:22:29,066 --> 00:22:33,100

but Jane, you've got to get back  
to the operations center at FAA,

395

00:22:33,100 --> 00:22:36,533  
and Mrs. Durant, I'm just going  
to have to excuse myself,

396

00:22:36,533 --> 00:22:40,466  
because I know I'm going to have  
to be dealing with this."

397

00:22:40,466 --> 00:22:42,466  
Well, by the time I got  
back into my office,

398

00:22:42,466 --> 00:22:45,033  
someone from the White House  
had called and said,

399

00:22:45,033 --> 00:22:47,666  
"Get over here right away."

400

00:22:47,666 --> 00:22:51,700  
So, I grabbed some government  
manuals and some papers,

401

00:22:51,700 --> 00:22:53,333  
and put them in my briefcase,

402

00:22:53,333 --> 00:22:55,633  
and went over  
to the White House.

403

00:22:55,633 --> 00:22:57,533  
And as we're driving in,

404

00:22:57,533 --> 00:23:00,700  
people were running out  
of the executive office building

405

00:23:00,700 --> 00:23:02,233  
and out of the White House,

406

00:23:02,233 --> 00:23:05,166  
and I said to my driver  
and security guy,

407

00:23:05,166 --> 00:23:08,033  
I said, "Is there something  
wrong with this picture?"

408

00:23:08,033 --> 00:23:11,133  
We're driving in and everybody  
else is running away."

409

00:23:11,133 --> 00:23:14,000  
So, I get out of the car,  
went into the White House,

410

00:23:14,000 --> 00:23:18,833  
and they said you have to be  
briefed by Dick Clarke,

411

00:23:18,833 --> 00:23:20,700  
the security advisor.

412

00:23:20,700 --> 00:23:23,800  
So, I went into the  
Situation Room and got briefed.

413

00:23:23,800 --> 00:23:27,900  
And then he said,  
"You got to be in the PEOC."

414

00:23:27,900 --> 00:23:30,400  
I said, "PEOC? What's that?"

415

00:23:30,400 --> 00:23:33,800  
He said, "The Presidential  
Emergency Operation Center."

416

00:23:33,800 --> 00:23:38,866

I said, "I have no idea  
what that is or where it is."

417

00:23:38,866 --> 00:23:40,366

And there was  
a Secret Service agent

418

00:23:40,366 --> 00:23:42,900

standing there, so he said,  
"I'll take you."

419

00:23:42,900 --> 00:23:45,633

So, this is that bunker  
that's way under the White House

420

00:23:45,633 --> 00:23:49,400

that's supposed to be  
nuclear bomb-proof.

421

00:23:49,400 --> 00:23:52,500

And let's hope we never have  
to test that.

422

00:23:52,500 --> 00:23:56,833

But anyway, I went down there,  
and got there,

423

00:23:56,833 --> 00:24:00,066

and the Vice President  
and Mrs. Cheney were

424

00:24:00,066 --> 00:24:01,933

already there.

425

00:24:01,933 --> 00:24:05,733

And so...

426

00:24:05,733 --> 00:24:10,100

there's a big table there.

Probably 30, 40 feet long,

427

00:24:10,100 --> 00:24:12,133  
12, 15 feet wide

428

00:24:12,133 --> 00:24:13,433  
with chairs all around it,

429

00:24:13,433 --> 00:24:16,766  
and between each of the chairs  
are phones.

430

00:24:16,766 --> 00:24:20,800  
So I set up this phone here to  
the Department of Transportation

431

00:24:20,800 --> 00:24:22,133  
and said, "Don't hang up.

432

00:24:22,133 --> 00:24:23,766  
Keep the line open."

433

00:24:23,766 --> 00:24:27,800  
This phone here, I set up  
to the operations center at FAA.

434

00:24:27,800 --> 00:24:31,233  
I said, "Keep it open,"

435

00:24:31,233 --> 00:24:34,500  
and stayed there the balance  
of the day

436

00:24:34,500 --> 00:24:38,066  
between those two phones.

437

00:24:38,066 --> 00:24:44,466  
And so a military assistant came  
in to the Vice President,

438

00:24:44,466 --> 00:24:48,700  
said, "There's a plane coming  
towards D.C."

439

00:24:48,700 --> 00:24:52,166  
So, I said, "Monte,  
what do you have on radar,

440

00:24:52,166 --> 00:24:55,600  
a plane coming towards D.C.?"

441

00:24:55,600 --> 00:24:58,200  
Monte had been a--  
started at FAA

442

00:24:58,200 --> 00:24:59,866  
as an air traffic controller,

443

00:24:59,866 --> 00:25:01,666  
and had risen over the years,

444

00:25:01,666 --> 00:25:04,100  
and now was  
the number two person

445

00:25:04,100 --> 00:25:06,166  
within the FAA.

446

00:25:06,166 --> 00:25:11,266  
And so he said,  
"Well, we're tracking one plane,

447

00:25:11,266 --> 00:25:13,700  
but the transponder's been  
turned off,

448

00:25:13,700 --> 00:25:17,966  
so all we're doing is following

the blip on the radar.

449

00:25:17,966 --> 00:25:20,433

We don't know anything  
about the plane."

450

00:25:20,433 --> 00:25:24,933

Well, on my desk,  
on my credenza behind me,

451

00:25:24,933 --> 00:25:28,733

there was a monitor I had,

452

00:25:28,733 --> 00:25:32,800

and it had an outline of the  
48 states and Alaska and Hawaii,

453

00:25:32,800 --> 00:25:34,800

and it would be peppered  
with dots.

454

00:25:34,800 --> 00:25:37,233

If I took my mouse and put it  
on one of those dots,

455

00:25:37,233 --> 00:25:39,133

then a flag would come up,

456

00:25:39,133 --> 00:25:42,833

and it would say UA123,

457

00:25:42,833 --> 00:25:47,166

United Airlines flight 123.

458

00:25:47,166 --> 00:25:53,566

B752, Boeing 757, series 200.

459

00:25:53,566 --> 00:25:57,400

And then it would say PVD,

460

00:25:57,400 --> 00:26:01,733  
and the number  
of navigational points, ORD.

461

00:26:01,733 --> 00:26:04,833  
So, that meant it left Portland

462

00:26:04,833 --> 00:26:07,700  
flying these navigational  
points,

463

00:26:07,700 --> 00:26:11,533  
final destination O'Hare  
at Chicago.

464

00:26:11,533 --> 00:26:12,900  
Then, on the second line,

465

00:26:12,900 --> 00:26:15,833  
it would show compass direction  
of the plane,

466

00:26:15,833 --> 00:26:18,800  
speed, how much fuel  
in the plane,

467

00:26:18,800 --> 00:26:21,566  
and a lot of other things  
about the airplane.

468

00:26:21,566 --> 00:26:23,433  
So, here in this instance,

469

00:26:23,433 --> 00:26:25,866  
the transponder had been  
turned off,

470

00:26:25,866 --> 00:26:29,666

and they were just following  
the blip on the radar screen.

471

00:26:29,666 --> 00:26:33,200

And it's hard to look  
at a radar screen and relate it

472

00:26:33,200 --> 00:26:35,066

to a point on the ground.

473

00:26:35,066 --> 00:26:37,800

So, when I asked Monte, I said,  
"Where's the plane?"

474

00:26:37,800 --> 00:26:40,866

He said, "Well, somewhere maybe  
in the middle part

475

00:26:40,866 --> 00:26:42,866

of Pennsylvania."

476

00:26:42,866 --> 00:26:44,933

So, every so often,  
I'd be asking him,

477

00:26:44,933 --> 00:26:46,433

"Where is the plane?"

478

00:26:46,433 --> 00:26:49,300

"Well, probably  
north of Baltimore now."

479

00:26:49,300 --> 00:26:50,966

"Where's the plane now?"

480

00:26:50,966 --> 00:26:53,200

"Probably near Roslyn."

481

00:26:53,200 --> 00:26:54,566

"Where's the plane now?"

482

00:26:54,566 --> 00:26:58,066

"Somewhere between Pentagon City  
and National Airport."

483

00:26:58,066 --> 00:27:02,366

"Where's the plane now?"

484

00:27:02,366 --> 00:27:04,866

Monte, where's the plane now?"

485

00:27:04,866 --> 00:27:07,666

"Mr. Secretary,  
we just lost the bogey."

486

00:27:07,666 --> 00:27:09,033

"Where'd you lose it?"

487

00:27:09,033 --> 00:27:15,333

"Somewhere between Pentagon City  
and National Airport."

488

00:27:15,333 --> 00:27:16,533

And then, about that time,

489

00:27:16,533 --> 00:27:18,500

someone broke into the phone  
and said,

490

00:27:18,500 --> 00:27:20,166

"Mr. Secretary,  
we just got a phone call

491

00:27:20,166 --> 00:27:22,400

from an Arlington County  
police officer

492

00:27:22,400 --> 00:27:26,566

who saw an American Airlines go  
into the Pentagon.

493

00:27:26,566 --> 00:27:31,400

And I said, "Monte, that's  
the third commercial airliner

494

00:27:31,400 --> 00:27:37,400

used today in the last two hours  
as a missile."

495

00:27:37,400 --> 00:27:40,200

Now, in the military, they have  
something called a stand-down,

496

00:27:40,200 --> 00:27:43,066

where they bring everything  
to a screeching halt

497

00:27:43,066 --> 00:27:45,966

and then try to figure out  
what's going on,

498

00:27:45,966 --> 00:27:50,566

try to eliminate some element,  
one by one.

499

00:27:50,566 --> 00:27:54,233

So, I said, "Monte, we've got  
to do our own stand-down.

500

00:27:54,233 --> 00:27:57,500

And we're gonna start it by  
bringing all the planes down."

501

00:27:57,500 --> 00:28:02,833

And at that point,  
we had 5,138 airplanes

502

00:28:02,833 --> 00:28:05,233

in the air over the US.

503

00:28:05,233 --> 00:28:09,566

And so Monte said,  
being an air traffic controller,

504

00:28:09,566 --> 00:28:11,633

he said, "We'll bring  
all the airplanes down

505

00:28:11,633 --> 00:28:13,333

per pilot discretion."

506

00:28:13,333 --> 00:28:16,366

And I said,  
"Monte, screw pilot discretion.

507

00:28:16,366 --> 00:28:18,466

I want all the planes down."

508

00:28:18,466 --> 00:28:22,100

'Cause I didn't want a pilot  
over Albuquerque or Phoenix

509

00:28:22,100 --> 00:28:27,333

figuring, "Well, I'll just keep  
going into LA, my destination."

510

00:28:27,333 --> 00:28:31,200

I wanted all those planes down  
as soon as possible.

511

00:28:31,200 --> 00:28:33,700

And in 2 hours and 20 minutes,

512

00:28:33,700 --> 00:28:38,600

we had 5,138 planes  
down on the ground safely

513

00:28:38,600 --> 00:28:40,700  
and without incident.

514  
00:28:42,900 --> 00:28:46,866  
Now, that morning,

515  
00:28:46,866 --> 00:28:50,000  
Tuesday, September 11,

516  
00:28:50,000 --> 00:28:54,166  
I had pulled three people  
out of ACS,

517  
00:28:54,166 --> 00:28:58,300  
Aviation Civil Security  
of the FAA,

518  
00:28:58,300 --> 00:29:00,866  
and moved them  
over to my office

519  
00:29:00,866 --> 00:29:04,700  
and said, "Start working  
on a new security regimen

520  
00:29:04,700 --> 00:29:07,700  
so that we can allow  
the airlines to go

521  
00:29:07,700 --> 00:29:09,900  
back into the air."

522  
00:29:09,900 --> 00:29:13,400  
So, I brought them all down  
on Tuesday morning,

523  
00:29:13,400 --> 00:29:16,066  
and we weren't able  
to get the regulations out

524  
00:29:16,066 --> 00:29:19,133  
until late Friday afternoon

525  
00:29:19,133 --> 00:29:23,366  
on the new security regimen.

526  
00:29:23,366 --> 00:29:27,100  
On Thursday,

527  
00:29:27,100 --> 00:29:30,366  
we had a cabinet meeting

528  
00:29:30,366 --> 00:29:31,966  
with the House and Senate

529  
00:29:31,966 --> 00:29:35,600  
Democratic and Republican  
leadership.

530  
00:29:35,600 --> 00:29:39,033  
And towards the end  
of that meeting,

531  
00:29:39,033 --> 00:29:42,066  
Congressman David Bonior  
from Michigan--

532  
00:29:42,066 --> 00:29:44,166  
Detroit, Michigan,  
said, "Mr. President,

533  
00:29:44,166 --> 00:29:46,400  
we have a very large population

534  
00:29:46,400 --> 00:29:50,466  
of Arab-Americans and Muslims.

535  
00:29:50,466 --> 00:29:54,166

And there are a lot of--  
there's a lot of rhetoric

536  
00:29:54,166 --> 00:29:57,166  
in the print media  
and the electronic media

537  
00:29:57,166 --> 00:30:01,400  
about prohibiting  
Middle Easterners and Muslims

538  
00:30:01,400 --> 00:30:03,266  
from flying."

539  
00:30:03,266 --> 00:30:08,166  
And so when I had checked  
with our ACS team

540  
00:30:08,166 --> 00:30:11,800  
putting together  
the new security regimen,

541  
00:30:11,800 --> 00:30:15,366  
the one right at the top  
of the list of things

542  
00:30:15,366 --> 00:30:17,833  
that they were looking for,

543  
00:30:17,833 --> 00:30:23,266  
first one was,  
"no racial or ethnic profiling."

544  
00:30:23,266 --> 00:30:27,733  
And so during that meeting  
after Presid--after...

545  
00:30:29,933 --> 00:30:34,366  
Congressman Bonior  
had expressed his concern

546

00:30:34,366 --> 00:30:39,233  
about the rhetoric about banning  
Middle Easterners

547

00:30:39,233 --> 00:30:41,433  
and Muslims from flying,

548

00:30:41,433 --> 00:30:44,033  
or even about rounding them up,

549

00:30:44,033 --> 00:30:46,533  
President George W. Bush said,

550

00:30:46,533 --> 00:30:48,266  
"David,  
you're absolutely correct.

551

00:30:48,266 --> 00:30:51,600  
We're equally concerned

552

00:30:51,600 --> 00:30:55,100  
about the rhetoric we're hearing  
and seeing.

553

00:30:55,100 --> 00:30:57,933  
But we don't want  
to have happen today

554

00:30:57,933 --> 00:31:01,666  
what happened to Norm in 1942."

555

00:31:01,666 --> 00:31:05,533  
And so...

556

00:31:05,533 --> 00:31:08,666  
that was a real signal  
to me to say--

557

00:31:08,666 --> 00:31:11,633  
and President Bush didn't know  
what we were doing

558

00:31:11,633 --> 00:31:14,166  
in terms of aviation  
civil security,

559

00:31:14,166 --> 00:31:18,833  
but for me, it just gave me  
a great deal of confidence

560

00:31:18,833 --> 00:31:21,400  
that we were on the right track.

561

00:31:21,400 --> 00:31:26,633  
Then on Monday,  
the 17th of September,

562

00:31:26,633 --> 00:31:29,900  
the President met with a large  
group of Arab-Americans

563

00:31:29,900 --> 00:31:34,133  
and Muslims...

564

00:31:34,133 --> 00:31:38,366  
at the Islamic Study Center  
in Washington, D.C.

565

00:31:38,366 --> 00:31:41,666  
And he said, "We know who did  
that last Tuesday.

566

00:31:41,666 --> 00:31:43,966  
They weren't  
loyal Arab-Americans.

567

00:31:43,966 --> 00:31:47,000

They weren't faithful followers  
of Islam.

568

00:31:47,000 --> 00:31:51,333

They were terrorists,  
and we're gonna go after them."

569

00:31:51,333 --> 00:31:54,400

And then,  
towards the end of September,

570

00:31:54,400 --> 00:31:58,766

there was a shooting in Arizona.

571

00:31:58,766 --> 00:32:02,400

And the person who had been  
killed was the owner

572

00:32:02,400 --> 00:32:06,033

of a gas station  
with a mini mart.

573

00:32:06,033 --> 00:32:09,033

And when they apprehended  
the killer, they asked him,

574

00:32:09,033 --> 00:32:13,766

"Why'd you kill the owner  
of this gas station mini mart?"

575

00:32:13,766 --> 00:32:16,266

He said, "Because he looked  
like the enemy."

576

00:32:16,266 --> 00:32:18,166

He was a Sikh,

577

00:32:18,166 --> 00:32:22,966

and he had a turban,  
facial hair, leg bindings.

578

00:32:22,966 --> 00:32:28,333

And his sole explanation was,  
"He looked like the enemy."

579

00:32:28,333 --> 00:32:32,900

And so again here...

580

00:32:32,900 --> 00:32:36,033

we saw traces

581

00:32:36,033 --> 00:32:39,200

of people making judgments  
on their own

582

00:32:39,200 --> 00:32:44,200

based on what I had experienced  
in 1942.

583

00:32:44,200 --> 00:32:46,366

The fact that I look  
like the people

584

00:32:46,366 --> 00:32:49,466

who had bombed Pearl Harbor.

585

00:32:49,466 --> 00:32:54,300

And so what we have to do is to  
make sure that as we're doing--

586

00:32:54,300 --> 00:32:59,866

as we're doing things  
to ensure our national security,

587

00:32:59,866 --> 00:33:02,400

that we also are doing things

588

00:33:02,400 --> 00:33:06,266

to protect

our own civil liberties.

589

00:33:06,266 --> 00:33:09,466

All of us have to be vigilant

590

00:33:09,466 --> 00:33:12,733

in the protection

of our constitutional rights.

591

00:33:12,733 --> 00:33:14,800

We don't have to be vigilantes,

592

00:33:14,800 --> 00:33:17,133

but we do have to be vigilant

593

00:33:17,133 --> 00:33:21,333

in the protection

of our constitutional rights.

594

00:33:21,333 --> 00:33:26,433

And so when I think

of December 7, 1941,

595

00:33:26,433 --> 00:33:30,266

September 11, 2001,

596

00:33:30,266 --> 00:33:33,700

and then with all the tragedies

597

00:33:33,700 --> 00:33:38,333

that we see and hear about

598

00:33:38,333 --> 00:33:44,333

in the print

and electronic media,

599

00:33:44,333 --> 00:33:49,666

it just makes me sick

about what's happening.

600  
00:33:49,666 --> 00:33:52,800  
So, all of us have  
to be protective

601  
00:33:52,800 --> 00:33:56,733  
about our constitutional  
and civil rights.

602  
00:33:56,733 --> 00:34:00,400  
But we also have to make sure

603  
00:34:00,400 --> 00:34:06,600  
that we're not making judgments  
about others...

604  
00:34:11,733 --> 00:34:15,966  
Wrongfully,  
or put them in a adverse--

605  
00:34:15,966 --> 00:34:20,900  
adverse light.

606  
00:34:20,900 --> 00:34:25,500  
So, maybe at this point,  
Dr. Jake Cohen,

607  
00:34:25,500 --> 00:34:28,700  
I'll stop my talk

608  
00:34:28,700 --> 00:34:33,466  
and open it up to questions  
that you may want to ask.

609  
00:34:33,466 --> 00:34:38,166  
And so, Aga, are you going  
to moderate this Q&A period?

610  
00:34:38,166 --> 00:34:40,300

- Yes. Well, first of all,  
we want to thank you,

611  
00:34:40,300 --> 00:34:42,233  
Mr. Mineta,  
for that fascinating--

612  
00:34:42,233 --> 00:34:45,233  
[applause]

613  
00:34:49,333 --> 00:34:52,633  
Thank you for giving us  
that fascinating viewpoint,

614  
00:34:52,633 --> 00:34:54,266  
especially from the inside.

615  
00:34:54,266 --> 00:34:57,200  
So we don't--we wouldn't have  
normally gotten that,

616  
00:34:57,200 --> 00:34:58,866  
so, appreciate that.

617  
00:34:58,866 --> 00:35:01,266  
And now we have time  
for questions,

618  
00:35:01,266 --> 00:35:03,266  
so if you raise your hand,

619  
00:35:03,266 --> 00:35:05,366  
someone will come  
and bring you a mic.

620  
00:35:05,366 --> 00:35:06,600  
Right there.

621  
00:35:10,600 --> 00:35:13,600

- Thank you very much  
for that presentation.

622  
00:35:13,600 --> 00:35:17,733  
And...I thought it was  
very interesting

623  
00:35:17,733 --> 00:35:19,133  
what you just described,

624  
00:35:19,133 --> 00:35:23,500  
because if we listen to the  
Republican Convention yesterday,

625  
00:35:23,500 --> 00:35:26,033  
it was similar  
in this kind of xenophobia

626  
00:35:26,033 --> 00:35:27,600  
that's being discussed,

627  
00:35:27,600 --> 00:35:29,933  
and discussion  
about building walls,

628  
00:35:29,933 --> 00:35:34,366  
and exiling people  
for their religious beliefs.

629  
00:35:34,366 --> 00:35:36,066  
How do you feel about this?

630  
00:35:36,066 --> 00:35:38,900  
And what are your opinions  
about what's going on?

631  
00:35:38,900 --> 00:35:40,233  
- Next question.

632

00:35:40,233 --> 00:35:42,433  
[laughter]

633  
00:35:42,433 --> 00:35:46,266  
Well, I think, really,  
first of all,

634  
00:35:46,266 --> 00:35:49,433  
I don't want to get  
into any partisan politics,

635  
00:35:49,433 --> 00:35:55,133  
but I sometimes wonder  
after hearing a lot of this,

636  
00:35:55,133 --> 00:35:59,500  
hearing the rhetoric  
and reading the press,

637  
00:35:59,500 --> 00:36:05,066  
I wonder,  
"What progress have we made?

638  
00:36:05,066 --> 00:36:08,433  
Are we reverting back  
to the '50s and '60s today?"

639  
00:36:08,433 --> 00:36:12,233  
And that's why I say  
that we have to be very careful

640  
00:36:12,233 --> 00:36:16,200  
about protecting  
our own constitutional rights

641  
00:36:16,200 --> 00:36:21,400  
and making sure  
that what our judgments are

642  
00:36:21,400 --> 00:36:25,666

don't reflect negatively.

643

00:36:25,666 --> 00:36:29,100

This country, to me,  
is a great country.

644

00:36:29,100 --> 00:36:34,600

And it was put together,

645

00:36:34,600 --> 00:36:36,000

even from the Constitution--

646

00:36:36,000 --> 00:36:41,166

remember it says,  
"To form a more perfect union."

647

00:36:41,166 --> 00:36:47,500

So, democracy is not  
a static...event.

648

00:36:47,500 --> 00:36:49,500

It's something that's evolving.

649

00:36:49,500 --> 00:36:52,066

It's something that's growing.

650

00:36:52,066 --> 00:36:57,300

And we make in our democratic  
society--with a small "d"--

651

00:36:57,300 --> 00:37:01,666

we make progress.

652

00:37:01,666 --> 00:37:08,166

And that whole progress is  
to form a more perfect union.

653

00:37:08,166 --> 00:37:12,966

And so it does alarm me

654

00:37:12,966 --> 00:37:17,000  
in terms of some of the rhetoric  
that's going on.

655

00:37:17,000 --> 00:37:22,466  
And so it makes us have to be  
that much more careful

656

00:37:22,466 --> 00:37:27,400  
about what we're hearing  
and seeing.

657

00:37:27,400 --> 00:37:32,733  
And so it's--

658

00:37:32,733 --> 00:37:35,033  
all elections are critical,

659

00:37:35,033 --> 00:37:40,166  
but it seems like 2016  
even becomes even more critical.

660

00:37:46,500 --> 00:37:49,100  
- Good morning.  
What would you consider

661

00:37:49,100 --> 00:37:50,800  
to be your greatest achievement?

662

00:37:50,800 --> 00:37:53,666  
You've had such a storied life  
so far.

663

00:37:58,566 --> 00:38:00,633  
- Um...

664

00:38:02,900 --> 00:38:07,500  
I really enjoyed my term

as Mayor of San Jose,

665

00:38:07,500 --> 00:38:11,400  
of setting the groundwork  
for the city

666

00:38:11,400 --> 00:38:17,533  
that was 580,000 population  
at the time when I left,

667

00:38:17,533 --> 00:38:20,633  
and now at about 1.1 million.

668

00:38:20,633 --> 00:38:26,600  
And--but I think from  
a legislative perspective...

669

00:38:29,333 --> 00:38:33,600  
I think of the legislation

670

00:38:33,600 --> 00:38:36,733  
I authored in 1991

671

00:38:36,733 --> 00:38:41,800  
called the Intermodal Surface  
Transportation Efficiency Act,

672

00:38:41,800 --> 00:38:44,333  
I-S-T-E-A.

673

00:38:44,333 --> 00:38:46,400  
And it got to be known  
as "Iced Tea."

674

00:38:46,400 --> 00:38:47,566  
[audience chuckles]

675

00:38:47,566 --> 00:38:53,700  
And it was the first rewrite

of highway law

676

00:38:53,700 --> 00:38:57,533

since 1956

when President Eisenhower signed

677

00:38:57,533 --> 00:39:03,000

the National Defense Highway Act  
of 1956.

678

00:39:03,000 --> 00:39:05,600

So, in 1991,

I had the opportunity

679

00:39:05,600 --> 00:39:11,933

to be the principal author  
of this ISTEA legislation.

680

00:39:11,933 --> 00:39:14,700

The first word was "intermodal."

681

00:39:14,700 --> 00:39:20,166

And for the first time,

I had introduced transit

682

00:39:20,166 --> 00:39:24,433

as part of the whole discussion  
about transportation.

683

00:39:24,433 --> 00:39:28,766

In the past, it had always been  
roads and bridges.

684

00:39:28,766 --> 00:39:33,266

So, in 1991,

I had introduced transit

685

00:39:33,266 --> 00:39:35,766

as part of that formula.

686  
00:39:35,766 --> 00:39:37,933  
Also in that legislation,

687  
00:39:37,933 --> 00:39:43,966  
I included \$1 billion for IST,

688  
00:39:43,966 --> 00:39:47,366  
Intelligent Transportation  
Systems.

689  
00:39:47,366 --> 00:39:53,366  
And so again...

690  
00:39:53,366 --> 00:39:58,266  
it was trying  
to encourage people

691  
00:39:58,266 --> 00:40:01,166  
to look at new  
and innovative ways

692  
00:40:01,166 --> 00:40:06,000  
to work  
on transportation issues.

693  
00:40:06,000 --> 00:40:08,766  
The American Society  
of Civil Engineers--

694  
00:40:08,766 --> 00:40:13,600  
and I tell this--  
tell you this little side-story:

695  
00:40:13,600 --> 00:40:15,900  
the American Society  
of Civil Engineers

696  
00:40:15,900 --> 00:40:19,533  
had designated that

as landmark legislation,

697

00:40:19,533 --> 00:40:22,633

and made me a fellow

698

00:40:22,633 --> 00:40:27,333

of the American Society  
of Civil Engineers.

699

00:40:27,333 --> 00:40:33,033

And when I boarded the train  
in 1942 to go off to camp,

700

00:40:33,033 --> 00:40:35,300

I was in a Cub Scout uniform.

701

00:40:35,300 --> 00:40:37,133

Had a baseball,  
a baseball glove,

702

00:40:37,133 --> 00:40:39,000

and a baseball bat.

703

00:40:39,000 --> 00:40:44,133

And as I got on the train,  
the MPs confiscated my bat.

704

00:40:44,133 --> 00:40:46,266

And I went running to my father,  
crying,

705

00:40:46,266 --> 00:40:48,566

saying,  
"The MPs took my bat away."

706

00:40:48,566 --> 00:40:50,600

He said, "That's all right.  
We'll get it replaced."

707

00:40:50,600 --> 00:40:53,466

Well, there were no stores in  
Santa Anita at the racetrack,

708

00:40:53,466 --> 00:40:57,100  
so I never got my bat replaced.

709

00:40:57,100 --> 00:40:59,400  
But a fellow from Los Angeles  
wrote and said,

710

00:40:59,400 --> 00:41:03,333  
"Congratulations on becoming  
a fellow of the ASCE.

711

00:41:03,333 --> 00:41:06,733  
And I was very touched by  
the fact that you lost your bat

712

00:41:06,733 --> 00:41:09,333  
when you boarded that train,

713

00:41:09,333 --> 00:41:13,133  
and I'd like to share with you  
a bat from my own collection."

714

00:41:13,133 --> 00:41:15,133  
So, I opened up this box,

715

00:41:15,133 --> 00:41:17,566  
and here's a bat  
signed by Hank Aaron,

716

00:41:17,566 --> 00:41:19,566  
home run king  
of the United States,

717

00:41:19,566 --> 00:41:24,700  
and Sadaharu Oh,  
the home run king of Japan.

718

00:41:24,700 --> 00:41:29,200

So, I wrote a letter  
profusely thanking this person

719

00:41:29,200 --> 00:41:31,266

for this wonderful gift.

720

00:41:31,266 --> 00:41:33,800

And a reporter  
from the San Jose "Mercury News"

721

00:41:33,800 --> 00:41:37,300

heard about my getting the bat,  
wrote about it.

722

00:41:37,300 --> 00:41:39,333

Being an enterprising reporter,

723

00:41:39,333 --> 00:41:43,700

went to a sports  
memorabilia shop,

724

00:41:43,700 --> 00:41:46,833

found out the bat  
was worth \$1,500.

725

00:41:46,833 --> 00:41:50,633

But the gift limitation  
for members of Congress was 250.

726

00:41:50,633 --> 00:41:53,000

So, I had to pack up the bat

727

00:41:53,000 --> 00:41:55,000

and send him a letter saying,  
"I can't accept it

728

00:41:55,000 --> 00:41:58,500

because, as wonderful a gift  
as it is,

729

00:41:58,500 --> 00:42:02,966

the gift limitation doesn't  
allow me to accept the gift."

730

00:42:02,966 --> 00:42:07,466

So, anyway, I sent a copy  
of that letter to the reporter,

731

00:42:07,466 --> 00:42:10,633

and on his letter,  
I wrote on there,

732

00:42:10,633 --> 00:42:13,066

"The damn government's taken  
my bat again."

733

00:42:13,066 --> 00:42:15,433

[laughter]

734

00:42:15,433 --> 00:42:19,066

So, I think of ISTEPA  
as significant

735

00:42:19,066 --> 00:42:21,533

in my life as a legislator.

736

00:42:21,533 --> 00:42:27,100

And then the other was  
the Civil Liberties Act of 1988,

737

00:42:27,100 --> 00:42:32,233

which was to redress  
the unconstitutional evacuation

738

00:42:32,233 --> 00:42:34,600

and internment  
of Japanese-Americans

739

00:42:34,600 --> 00:42:36,433  
during World War II.

740

00:42:38,233 --> 00:42:40,200  
- Oh, there's a question  
over there.

741

00:42:44,366 --> 00:42:46,533  
- Thank you  
for presenting today.

742

00:42:46,533 --> 00:42:48,900  
My question is, why--

743

00:42:48,900 --> 00:42:51,500  
my question is,  
why is high-speed rail

744

00:42:51,500 --> 00:42:54,433  
so difficult to implement here  
in this country?

745

00:42:54,433 --> 00:42:56,466  
I'm not talking  
about across the country,

746

00:42:56,466 --> 00:43:00,733  
but let's say between the  
Bay Area and Los Angeles area.

747

00:43:00,733 --> 00:43:02,033  
Thank you.

748

00:43:05,466 --> 00:43:11,366  
- The whole concept  
of high-speed rail--

749

00:43:11,366 --> 00:43:14,366

a national  
high-speed rail system--

750

00:43:14,366 --> 00:43:18,366

would be a very,  
very costly proposition.

751

00:43:18,366 --> 00:43:23,733

I think what we will have  
are regional high-speed systems.

752

00:43:23,733 --> 00:43:29,200

Let's say San Diego  
to San Francisco,

753

00:43:29,200 --> 00:43:32,100

Portland to Vancouver,

754

00:43:32,100 --> 00:43:34,400

British Columbia  
through Seattle.

755

00:43:34,400 --> 00:43:40,300

Probably the Midwest,  
in terms of Detroit to Chicago

756

00:43:40,300 --> 00:43:44,800

down through St. Louis  
to New Orleans.

757

00:43:44,800 --> 00:43:49,600

Something in Texas,  
something in Florida.

758

00:43:49,600 --> 00:43:54,400

But I don't think we'll have a  
national high-speed rail system,

759

00:43:54,400 --> 00:43:58,833

but we will have regional

high-speed rail systems.

760

00:43:58,833 --> 00:44:03,466

The other thing  
is that we have got to...

761

00:44:03,466 --> 00:44:05,900

educate ourselves.

762

00:44:05,900 --> 00:44:10,233

And also from an engineering  
perspective,

763

00:44:10,233 --> 00:44:14,700

the US definition  
of high-speed rail varies,

764

00:44:14,700 --> 00:44:16,366

or is very different

765

00:44:16,366 --> 00:44:22,833

from what our friends  
who have high-speed rail.

766

00:44:22,833 --> 00:44:27,100

Our definition of high-speed  
rail is 150 miles an hour.

767

00:44:27,100 --> 00:44:30,466

In Japan, it's 250.

768

00:44:30,466 --> 00:44:33,733

And they're now building  
a maglev system

769

00:44:33,733 --> 00:44:36,600

to go 350 miles an hour system.

770

00:44:36,600 --> 00:44:39,166

It'll go from Tokyo to Nagoya,

771

00:44:39,166 --> 00:44:44,900  
and it'll take 45 minutes  
at 350 miles an hour.

772

00:44:44,900 --> 00:44:47,900  
France has 250 miles an hour,

773

00:44:47,900 --> 00:44:52,866  
and Germany, Switzerland,  
as their standard.

774

00:44:52,866 --> 00:44:59,866  
And they run their high-speed  
rail on dedicated tracks.

775

00:44:59,866 --> 00:45:06,433  
Our high-speed rail will be  
Amtrak running on freight rail.

776

00:45:06,433 --> 00:45:09,566  
So, freight rail,  
when they do their maintenance,

777

00:45:09,566 --> 00:45:14,366  
they build it  
to 79 miles per hour.

778

00:45:14,366 --> 00:45:19,400  
So, right now, where we say  
to them, "Build it--

779

00:45:19,400 --> 00:45:23,600  
we run our railroads  
on your tracks,

780

00:45:23,600 --> 00:45:28,866  
so please maintain them to be  
able to go 150 miles an hour."

781

00:45:28,866 --> 00:45:32,233

And what we will have to do is

782

00:45:32,233 --> 00:45:37,933

to have our own dedicated  
high-speed rail system

783

00:45:37,933 --> 00:45:44,400

apart from the reliance  
on freight rail.

784

00:45:44,400 --> 00:45:46,800

So, until we get to that point

785

00:45:46,800 --> 00:45:49,866

of having  
our own high-speed rail

786

00:45:49,866 --> 00:45:53,566

as we're building here  
in California,

787

00:45:53,566 --> 00:45:57,300

and it will eventually be  
San Diego, LA,

788

00:45:57,300 --> 00:46:00,600

LA up the central valley,

789

00:46:00,600 --> 00:46:03,600

San Jose to San Francisco.

790

00:46:03,600 --> 00:46:05,833

But right now, they're building

791

00:46:05,833 --> 00:46:10,266

the Bakersfield  
to Modesto portion of it.

792

00:46:10,266 --> 00:46:17,266

Mainly, I think it was done  
because of the--two things.

793

00:46:17,266 --> 00:46:21,533

One: the quickness with which  
they would be able to get

794

00:46:21,533 --> 00:46:25,500

the rights of way  
between Bakersfield and Modesto,

795

00:46:25,500 --> 00:46:28,600

and the cost of it.

796

00:46:28,600 --> 00:46:32,433

The cost of building  
and getting the rights of way

797

00:46:32,433 --> 00:46:34,333

through Los Angeles

798

00:46:34,333 --> 00:46:37,466

would be a very expensive  
proposition.

799

00:46:37,466 --> 00:46:40,700

But I think we'll still see it

800

00:46:40,700 --> 00:46:44,833

probably in the 2025 timeframe.

801

00:46:47,666 --> 00:46:51,200

- Hi. I speak as a fan  
of high-speed rail myself.

802

00:46:51,200 --> 00:46:52,700

I love taking the train

in Europe.

803

00:46:52,700 --> 00:46:54,233

But you yourself have  
just pointed out

804

00:46:54,233 --> 00:46:56,033

some of the problems with it.

805

00:46:56,033 --> 00:46:58,266

And I'm wondering  
if maybe we should consider

806

00:46:58,266 --> 00:47:02,200

that the successors  
to high-speed rail already exist

807

00:47:02,200 --> 00:47:06,533

or are on the verge--on the cusp  
of coming into being.

808

00:47:06,533 --> 00:47:09,866

And should we as a nation,  
or we as California,

809

00:47:09,866 --> 00:47:11,766

start looking  
at these alternate technologies

810

00:47:11,766 --> 00:47:16,366

and sort of hopscotch  
over high-speed rail?

811

00:47:16,366 --> 00:47:20,600

- Well, the only hopscotch  
technology would be maglev,

812

00:47:20,600 --> 00:47:24,833

and you know, when you're going  
350 miles an hour,

813

00:47:24,833 --> 00:47:27,033

you really can't be  
on the surface,

814

00:47:27,033 --> 00:47:31,033

'cause all that going by you  
would just be...

815

00:47:31,033 --> 00:47:33,066

I think maybe dizzying.

816

00:47:33,066 --> 00:47:37,133

So the one from--in Japan,

817

00:47:37,133 --> 00:47:41,700

maglev, is all being done  
in a tunnel

818

00:47:41,700 --> 00:47:44,333

from Tokyo to Nagoya.

819

00:47:44,333 --> 00:47:48,066

And that will be ready--

820

00:47:48,066 --> 00:47:53,866

completed I think in about 2021  
for operation.

821

00:47:53,866 --> 00:48:00,900

Now, the Chinese, too,  
have a maglev in...

822

00:48:00,900 --> 00:48:04,900

Pudong to the Shanghai Airport,

823

00:48:04,900 --> 00:48:09,500

and it's about 19,  
20 miles long,

824

00:48:09,500 --> 00:48:15,000  
and it gets up to about 250  
to 300 miles an hour.

825

00:48:15,000 --> 00:48:19,500  
But it takes about--it takes  
them about three minutes

826

00:48:19,500 --> 00:48:22,933  
to get up to 250 miles an hour,

827

00:48:22,933 --> 00:48:25,333  
and then they're braking  
the rest of the status--

828

00:48:25,333 --> 00:48:27,966  
way into Pudong Airport.

829

00:48:27,966 --> 00:48:34,966  
And it's the first  
commercial maglev project

830

00:48:34,966 --> 00:48:36,466  
in the world,

831

00:48:36,466 --> 00:48:41,333  
but it's still not the kind  
of a system

832

00:48:41,333 --> 00:48:44,233  
that probably  
will be operational

833

00:48:44,233 --> 00:48:47,166  
over a long period of time.

834

00:48:47,166 --> 00:48:49,966  
The one in Japan will be.

835

00:48:49,966 --> 00:48:52,600

Yes, sir?

836

00:48:52,600 --> 00:48:55,500

- You talked about 9/11  
and tracking airplanes,

837

00:48:55,500 --> 00:48:59,000

and lately we've had a bunch  
of airplanes just disappear,

838

00:48:59,000 --> 00:49:04,400

and possibly people turning off  
things that are in the airplane.

839

00:49:04,400 --> 00:49:06,800

We have technology now  
to track everything.

840

00:49:06,800 --> 00:49:09,366

How--how come it's so hard  
to get--

841

00:49:09,366 --> 00:49:12,000

and we, you know, when we do it,  
we have to dive down

842

00:49:12,000 --> 00:49:15,600

and find these analog devices  
that are crushed.

843

00:49:15,600 --> 00:49:18,100

How come it's so hard  
to get a system

844

00:49:18,100 --> 00:49:20,066

so that we can actually track  
and find out

845

00:49:20,066 --> 00:49:21,633

what's going on in airplanes?

846

00:49:21,633 --> 00:49:24,300

It doesn't sound

like it would be that difficult,

847

00:49:24,300 --> 00:49:27,466

or, you know,

at least technically.

848

00:49:27,466 --> 00:49:28,833

- No. You're right.

849

00:49:28,833 --> 00:49:33,600

In 2004,

I created something called

850

00:49:33,600 --> 00:49:39,400

the Next Generation

Air Transportation System.

851

00:49:39,400 --> 00:49:44,233

And--

G-N-A-T-S.

852

00:49:44,233 --> 00:49:48,100

A lot of people said, "The secretary can't spell 'gnats.'"

853

00:49:48,100 --> 00:49:52,866

But it's--and that is now known as Next Generation,

854

00:49:52,866 --> 00:49:56,100

or NextGen.

855

00:49:56,100 --> 00:49:58,933

And what we were trying

to do then was

856

00:49:58,933 --> 00:50:03,966  
to go from ground-based radar  
to space-based.

857

00:50:03,966 --> 00:50:09,800  
And part of it became budgetary.

858

00:50:09,800 --> 00:50:15,266  
Part of it became resistance  
from the unions

859

00:50:15,266 --> 00:50:18,166  
about moving to space-based.

860

00:50:18,166 --> 00:50:22,933  
And like in that recent  
EgyptAir,

861

00:50:22,933 --> 00:50:28,166  
or even in the case  
of the Malaysian Airlines,

862

00:50:28,166 --> 00:50:33,500  
if we had  
had a space-based radar,

863

00:50:33,500 --> 00:50:35,033  
we would've been able  
to pinpoint

864

00:50:35,033 --> 00:50:37,933  
where the plane went in  
without having to look

865

00:50:37,933 --> 00:50:43,500  
for the FDR,  
the Flight Data Recorder,

866

00:50:43,500 --> 00:50:47,166

or the cockpit voice recorder,

867

00:50:47,166 --> 00:50:51,233

and we'd be able to trace them.

868

00:50:51,233 --> 00:50:54,900

Today--and I've been part  
of an effort

869

00:50:54,900 --> 00:50:58,500

in a public-private partnership,  
P3,

870

00:50:58,500 --> 00:51:01,533

to try to get NextGen,

871

00:51:01,533 --> 00:51:05,333

and we've raised over \$2 billion

872

00:51:05,333 --> 00:51:10,600

to build satellites

873

00:51:10,600 --> 00:51:16,166

to house this ADS-B receiver

874

00:51:16,166 --> 00:51:18,200

for--or transmitter--

875

00:51:18,200 --> 00:51:23,166

for space-based  
air traffic control.

876

00:51:23,166 --> 00:51:26,100

The FAA is still fighting us  
on this.

877

00:51:26,100 --> 00:51:31,600

Nav Canada, a private non-profit

878

00:51:31,600 --> 00:51:36,033

air carrier/

air traffic management force

879

00:51:36,033 --> 00:51:40,866

has put some 60 million

of their money into it.

880

00:51:40,866 --> 00:51:44,266

The UK, the Europeans have,

881

00:51:44,266 --> 00:51:49,766

and so now we will be launching

our first satellite in July

882

00:51:49,766 --> 00:51:51,300

out of Vandenberg

883

00:51:51,300 --> 00:51:55,833

to start this series

of 66 balls in the air--

884

00:51:55,833 --> 00:52:00,166

satellites for space-based

air traffic control.

885

00:52:02,800 --> 00:52:05,466

The Europeans are part of this,

886

00:52:05,466 --> 00:52:09,666

and so when they're using it,

887

00:52:09,666 --> 00:52:12,133

the distance between aircraft

888

00:52:12,133 --> 00:52:17,566

will be 5 nautical miles.

889

00:52:17,566 --> 00:52:22,466

But when they transfer  
that aircraft to US control,

890

00:52:22,466 --> 00:52:24,666

then the planes  
are gonna have to go

891

00:52:24,666 --> 00:52:28,100

to 13 nautical miles  
of distance.

892

00:52:28,100 --> 00:52:31,300

So, that means that US--  
when the planes are coming in

893

00:52:31,300 --> 00:52:34,166

to US territory,  
they'll have to slow down

894

00:52:34,166 --> 00:52:38,366

and increase that distance  
between the airplanes.

895

00:52:38,366 --> 00:52:43,966

So, we're hoping  
that the 66-ball system

896

00:52:43,966 --> 00:52:46,800

will be up  
in about a year and half.

897

00:52:46,800 --> 00:52:51,233

And we'll be able to get

898

00:52:51,233 --> 00:52:57,500

a greater air traffic management  
system in place.

899

00:52:57,500 --> 00:53:00,700

As all of you know,  
you're also working

900

00:53:00,700 --> 00:53:06,600

on air traffic management  
here at Ames.

901

00:53:06,600 --> 00:53:09,700

- Okay, so, we want  
to wrap it up here

902

00:53:09,700 --> 00:53:12,666

and thank you again for being  
here and sharing your history.

903

00:53:12,666 --> 00:53:14,266

- Thank you for the invitation  
to be here.

904

00:53:14,266 --> 00:53:16,933

[applause]

905

00:53:16,933 --> 00:53:18,466

Thank you.  
- Thank you.