

Attachment B

to Addendum 4 to Operations Group Chairman's Factual Report

DCA94MA076

**Letter of December 4, 1998,
from Captain Herb LeGrow, Air Line Pilots Association**

(1 page)



AIR LINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION, INTERNATIONAL

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December 4, 1998

Mr. Ben Berman
National Transportation Safety Board
490 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20594

Dear Mr. Berman:

ALPA would like to comment on addendum 4 of the operations group factual report.

This report is based on flight testing conducted by Boeing in June of 1997. Although the operations group chairman was in attendance, we must point out that it was a single party activity and was not a NTSB investigation activity. The sole purpose of this flight test was to obtain data for updating the Boeing engineering simulator. ALPA supports this effort, however, we must remember that this flight test was not intended or designed to accomplish anything other than obtaining simulator data. During this flight, the test pilots only concern was to hit certain data points in a timely manner. At no time during this flight would they encounter any situation which was not fully anticipated and completely briefed. Based on this, we feel that the comments of these test pilots are not valid when analyzing the controllability of the 737 during these maneuvers. This would also be a duplication of the efforts of the human performance group. For better than four years this group has explored these issues, and we believe the documentation speaks for itself.

We do not believe that the observations and comments made by the Boeing test pilots are relevant and must be considered in the proper context.

Sincerely,

Captain Herb LeGrow
ALPA Party Coordinator
USAir 427 Accident Investigation *HL*

HL:nst

cc: T. Haueter