



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	COLD BAY, Alaska	Accident Number:	DCA83AA029
Date & Time:	June 8, 1983, 13:55 Local	Registration:	N1968R
Aircraft:	LOCKHEED 188C	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	15 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 121: Air carrier - Scheduled		

Analysis

DURING A CRUISE CLIMB, THE AIRCREW NOTED AN UNUSUAL VIBRATION; HOWEVER, ATTEMPTS TO ISOLATE THE VIBRATION WERE UNSUCCESSFUL. WHILE CLIMBING FROM FL190 TO FL250, THE FLT ENGINEER WENT AFT TO OBSERVE THE ENGS & PROPS, BUT NOTED NOTHING UNUSUAL. A FLT ATTENDANT WENT FORWARD TO ADVISE THE CAPT THAT NOTHING WAS OBSERVED, WHEN THE VIBRATION INCREASED IN INTENSITY. AS SHE LEFT THE COCKPIT, SHE PEERED OUT THE RGT WINDOW & SAW THE #4 PROP SEPARATE & STRIKE THE ACFT. THIS CAUSED MAJOR DAMAGE TO THE LOWER FUSELAGE & RESULTED IN DECOMPRESSION OF THE CABIN. THE FLT CONTROLS BECAME JAMMED & THE ENGS WOULD NOT RESPOND TO THROTTLE MOVEMENT. THE AUTOPLT WAS USED FOR MINIMAL CONTROL & THE FLT CREW WERE ABLE TO DIVERT TO ANCHORAGE, AK. THEY WERE ABLE TO CLIMB & DESCEND BY RETRACTING & EXTENDING THE LANDING GEAR WITH THE #2 ENG SHUT DOWN. THE ACFT WAS LANDED SAFETY & THE ENGS WERE SHUT DOWN TO DECELERATE . THE EXACT CAUSE OF THE PROP SEPARATION WAS NOT DETERMINED SINCE IT FELL IN THE OCEAN DURING THE OCCURRENCE.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: AIRFRAME/COMPONENT/SYSTEM FAILURE/MALFUNCTION

Phase of Operation: CLIMB - TO CRUISE

Findings

1. (C) PROPELLER SYSTEM/ACCESSORIES - UNDETERMINED
2. PROPELLER SYSTEM/ACCESSORIES - VIBRATION
3. PROPELLER SYSTEM/ACCESSORIES - SEPARATION
4. FUSELAGE,CABIN - DECOMPRESSION
5. FLIGHT CONTROL SYSTEM - JAMMED
6. THROTTLE/POWER LEVER - DISCONNECTED
7. FLIGHT TO ALTERNATE DESTINATION - PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
8. PRECAUTIONARY LANDING - PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport	Age:	54, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical-w/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 3, 1983
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	13874 hours (Total, all aircraft), 5711 hours (Total, this make and model), 133 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 58 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	LOCKHEED	Registration:	N1968R
Model/Series:	188C 188C	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Transport	Serial Number:	2007
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	69
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	June 8, 1983 Continuous airworthiness	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	116000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	8 Hrs	Engines:	4 Turbo prop
Airframe Total Time:	32994 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	ALLISON
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	501-D13
Registered Owner:	REEVE ALEUTIAN AIRWAYS	Rated Power:	4000 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Flag carrier (121)
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	CDB	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	50 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	0°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	COLD BAY , AK (CDB)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	SEATTLE , WA (SEA)	Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	13:24 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Precautionary landing

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	5 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	10 None	Aircraft Fire:	On-ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	15 None	Latitude, Longitude:	55.220092,-162.780105(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Schleede, R.

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date:

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: [Class](#)

Note:

Investigation Docket: <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=15785>

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