



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	MIAMI, Florida	<b>Incident Number:</b>	MIA85IA120
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	March 15, 1985, 02:55 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N55CA
<b>Aircraft:</b>	DOUGLAS DC-6B	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Minor
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	3 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 129: Foreign		

## Analysis

CREW STATED THAT ON TAKEOFF ROLL THE NUMBER FOUR ENGINE FAILED AND AN ABORTED TAKEOFF WAS INITIATED. DURING THE DECELERATION AFTER THE THROTTLES WERE CLOSED THE NUMBER FOUR ENGINE SEIZED AND THE NUMBER FOUR PROPELLER SEPARATED WHEN THE PROPELLER SHAFT FAILED. INSPECTION OF THE PROPELLER SHAFT REVEALED IT SHEARED OFF EIGHT INCHES FROM THE TIP, AND EXHIBITED NO EVIDENCE OF A PRIOR CRACK. INSPECTION OF THE ENGINE OIL SCREENS REVEALED THE PRESENTS OF METAL CONTAMINATION. THE OPERATOR HAD NO PLANS TO DISASSEMBLE THE ENGINE. BUT PLANNED TO EXCHANGE IT FOR AN OVERHAULED ENGINE. THE EXPCT CAUSE OF THE ENGINES INTERNAL FAILURE WAS NOT DETERMINED.

## Probable Cause and Findings

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

### Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - MECH FAILURE/MALF  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

#### Findings

1. (C) ENGINE ASSEMBLY - FAILURE, TOTAL
2. ABORTED TAKEOFF - INITIATED - PILOT IN COMMAND

3. (C) ENGINE ASSEMBLY - UNDETERMINED

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Occurrence #2: AIRFRAME/COMPONENT/SYSTEM FAILURE/MALFUNCTION  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

Findings

4. (F) PROPELLER SYSTEM/ACCESSORIES - OVERLOAD

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Airline transport	<b>Age:</b>	58, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	Yes
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 1 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	September 1, 1984
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	Yes	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	21800 hours (Total, all aircraft), 12000 hours (Total, this make and model)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	DOUGLAS	<b>Registration:</b>	N55CA
<b>Model/Series:</b>	DC-6B DC-6B	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Transport	<b>Serial Number:</b>	25328
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Retractable - Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	5
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	February 27, 1985 AAIP	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	103800 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	31 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	4 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	41074 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	P&W
<b>ELT:</b>	Not installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	R2800-CB16/17
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	F. A. CONNER	<b>Rated Power:</b>	2400 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	APA INTERNATIONAL AIR, S.A.	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>		<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Night/dark
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	MIA ,10 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>	02:50 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Scattered / 10000 ft AGL	<b>Visibility</b>	7 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	/	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	0°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	19°C / 16°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>		<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	IFR
<b>Destination:</b>	SANTO DOMINGO , OF (SDO )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	IFR
<b>Departure Time:</b>	02:55 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class B;Class D;Class E

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	
<b>Runway Used:</b>	0	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>		<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	3 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Minor
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	3 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Kennedy, Jeffrey

**Additional Participating Persons:**

**Original Publish Date:**

**Last Revision Date:**

**Investigation Class:** [Class](#)

**Note:**

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=31282>

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