



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	ATLANTA, Georgia	<b>Incident Number:</b>	ATL88IA139
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	April 11, 1988, 21:35 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N889Z
<b>Aircraft:</b>	BOEING 727-225A	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Minor
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	83 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 121: Air carrier - Scheduled		

## Analysis

THE LEFT MLG OUTER CYLINDER MAIN TRUNNION FRACTURED AND SEPARATED WHILE THE AIRPLANE WAS SITTING AT THE GATE, SHORTLY BEFORE THE PLANNED DEPARTURE. SUBSEQUENT METALLURGICAL EXAM OF THE PART REVEALED THAT IT WAS IMPROPERLY OVERHAULED, WHICH SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED THE LIFE OF THE PART.

## Probable Cause and Findings

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

### Findings

Occurrence #1: AIRFRAME/COMPONENT/SYSTEM FAILURE/MALFUNCTION  
Phase of Operation: STANDING - PRE-FLIGHT

#### Findings

1. (C) LANDING GEAR,MAIN GEAR - FRACTURED
2. (C) MAINTENANCE,OVERHAUL - IMPROPER - COMPANY MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Airline transport	<b>Age:</b>	55, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	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-w/ waivers/lim	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	June 21, 1988
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	Yes	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	1000 hours (Total, this make and model)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	BOEING	<b>Registration:</b>	N889Z
<b>Model/Series:</b>	727-225A 727-225A	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Transport	<b>Serial Number:</b>	21858
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Retractable - Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	130
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	Continuous airworthiness	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	172000 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	3 Turbo fan
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	26282 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	P&W
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	JT8D
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	CONNECTICUT BANK & TRUST CO.	<b>Rated Power:</b>	14500 Lbs thrust
<b>Operator:</b>	EASTERN AIRLINES INC	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	Flag carrier (121)
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>	EASTERN AIRLINES	<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	EALA

## 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>	ATL ,1026 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>	19:50 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Scattered / 500 ft AGL	<b>Visibility</b>	5 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Overcast / 2000 ft AGL	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	11 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	80°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	29 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	12°C / 11°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	N/A - None - Fog		
<b>Departure Point:</b>		<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	IFR
<b>Destination:</b>	MIAMI , FL (MIA )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	00:00 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	WILLIAM B. HARTSFIELD ATL	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	
<b>Runway Used:</b>	0	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>		<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	None

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	7 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Minor
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	76 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	83 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Strickland, Scott
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	JOSEPH EPPERSON; WASHINGTON , DC BILLY HOPPER; WASHINGTON , DC RANDY MARTIN; ATLANTA , GA D H MCCLURE; HERNDON , VA
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	January 25, 1990
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=7634">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=7634</a>

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