

INCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Boeing 747-136, G-AWNC
No & Type of Engines:	4 Pratt & Whitney JT9D-7 turbofan engines
Year of Manufacture:	1970
Date & Time (UTC):	3 December 1993 at 1435 hrs
Location:	Stand T5, Terminal 4, London Heathrow Airport
Type of Flight:	Public Transport
Persons on Board:	Not known
Injuries:	None
Nature of Damage:	Impact damage to rear cargo door frame
Commander's Licence:	Airline Transport Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age:	47 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	Approx 10,000 hours (of which 6,000 were on type) Last 90 days - 180 hours Last 28 days - 66 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot, and information from the Metropolitan Police Heathrow

The aircraft was in the final stages of preparation for departure on a scheduled service to Toronto. Passenger boarding was in progress. The delivery height of a Cargo King Baggage Elevator vehicle was being adjusted in order to position it into the rear cargo hold. A bracket on the far side of the belt, out of the operator's view, came into contact with the door frame of the cargo hold, causing a tear in the aircraft skin.

Statistics recorded at Heathrow for the year 1993 indicate that there were 101 occurrences reported which involved damage to aircraft as a result of unintentional contact with ground vehicles or equipment. The AAIB has made Safety Recommendations (numbers 93-76 and 93-77) to the Civil Aviation Authority and to the BAA PLC regarding apron safety.