

Boeing 767, V8-RBL

AAIB Bulletin No: 5/97 Ref: EW/G97/02/13 Category: 1.1

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Boeing 767, V8-RBL
No & Type of Engines:	2 Pratt & Whitney PW4056 turbofan engines
Year of Manufacture:	1994
Date & Time (UTC):	7 February 1997 at 1144 hrs
Location:	Ponders End, Middlesex
Type of Flight:	Public Transport
Persons on Board:	Crew -Not applicable - Passengers - Not applicable
Injuries:	Crew - none - Passengers - none
Nature of Damage:	Hole in roof of workshop - no injuries
Commander's Licence:	Not applicable
Commander's Age:	Not applicable
Commander's Flying Experience:	Not applicable
Information Source:	Enquiries by AAIB and the Department of Civil Aviation, Brunei

On 7 February a large block of clear ice came through the roof of a garage workshop damaging the roof but causing no injuries. The time of the incident was reported to be approximately 1140hrs. A search of the radar recordings between 1140 and 1145 hrs revealed two aircraft in that area. One tracked approximately 1.3 km south of the workshop and the prevailing wind of 260°/36kt would not have carried any falling ice towards the workshop. The other aircraft, a Boeing 767 tracking approximately 265°, passed almost overhead the workshop at 7,800 feet while in the descent to Heathrow.

Following a request from the Brunei Department of Civil Aviation, the operator of the Boeing 767 reported that, on 21 February, they discovered a water leak at a rate of 15 drops per minute from the rear fuselage drain of this aircraft. The leak was traced to the aircraft water tank front access panel seal but they were unable to determine when the leak had started. They also inspected the fuselage drain valve which was found to be fully operative. This valve is designed to operate on low cabin pressure differential and should have remained closed while the aircraft was in flight. Any water which had leaked from the tank should therefore have been retained within the fuselage.

The water tank access panel seal was subsequently replaced and satisfactorily pressure tested.

