

INCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration: Boeing 707-338C, 5N-ARQ

No & Type of Engines: 4 JT3-3D turbofan engines

Year of Manufacture: N/K

Date & Time (UTC): 24 December 1993 at 0740 hrs

Location: London Gatwick Airport

Type of Flight: Cargo

Persons on Board: Crew - 4 Passengers - 2

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Tyre failure and hydraulic pipes damaged

Commander's Licence: Airline Transport Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 40 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 10,000 hours (of which 6,000 were on type)
Last 90 days - N/K
Last 28 days - N/K

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft took off from London Gatwick Airport bound for Lagos, Nigeria. During the climb after landing gear retraction, but before flap retraction, all hydraulic fluid was lost causing failure of both the utility and auxiliary hydraulic systems. The trailing edge flaps were retracted electrically but the leading edge flaps remained locked out. ATC were informed of a total hydraulic failure and that it was the crew's intention to return to Gatwick after dumping fuel when, after landing, they would be unable to clear the runway without assistance. Following a request from ATC the crew considered diverting to another airfield and after discussions with company operations elected to divert to Manston, one of the operators maintenance bases. Whilst the aircraft was holding, tyre debris was recovered from Runway 26L at Gatwick and this information was passed to the crew. The aircraft landed at Manston without further incident.

Examination of the aircraft revealed one failed tyre on the right main landing gear and associated damage to hydraulic pipes resulting in loss of hydraulic fluid during gear retraction.