

No: 9/89

Ref: EW/C1124

Category: 1a

Aircraft Type and Registration: (1) Airbus A310-304 F-ODVD
(2) Boeing 737-348 EI-BUE

No & Type of Engines: (1) 2 General Electric CF 6-80-C2A2 turbofan engines
(2) 2 CFM 56-3-B1 turbofan engines

Year of Manufacture: (1) 1987 (2) 1987

Date and Time (UTC): 5 July 1989 at 1009 hrs

Location: London/Heathrow Airport

Type of Flight: Scheduled passenger

Persons on Board: Crew - (1) 11 Passengers - (1) 134
(2) 8 (2) 71 + 1

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: (1) Damage to outer 7 feet of left wing and left winglet
(2) Severe damage to right elevator and horizontal stabiliser

Commander's Licence: (1) Air Transport Pilot's Licence
(2) Air Transport Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: (1) 44 years
(2) Not relevant

Commander's Total Flying Experience: (1) 9495 hrs (of which 96 hrs were on type)
(2) Not relevant

Information Source: AAIB Field Investigation

The A310 (F-ODVD) left Gate M24 in the central area at 0957 hrs and at 1002 hrs was instructed by the ground movement controller to 'TURN LEFT ON THE INNER TAXYWAY TO 09 RIGHT'. At 1007 hrs the commander changed to Tower frequency and was instructed to 'PROCEED ALONG THE EXTENSION TAXYWAY'.

The Boeing 737 (EI-BUE) was due to take off before the A310 and had taxyed from the central area 4 minutes earlier. This aircraft was holding in Block 99 preparing to enter the runway for take-off from Block 102, some 300 metres from the start of the runway. As the A310 attempted to pass behind the Boeing 737, its port wingtip struck the starboard elevator and horizontal stabiliser of the other aircraft.

The stop line between Block 99 and Block 102 is 48 metres from the centreline of the main taxiway. The nosewheel of the B737 was 2 metres short of the stop line at the time of the collision.

