
Flight attendant fall off Boeing 737-201, May 4, 1997

Micro-summary: A flight attendant fell off this Boeing 737-201, experiencing significant injuries.


Event Date: 1997-05-04 at 1325 MDT


Investigative Body: National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), USA


Investigative Body's Web Site: <http://www.nts.gov/>

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		NTSB ID: FTW97LA177		Aircraft Registration Number: N217US	
		Occurrence Date: 05/04/1997		Most Critical Injury: Serious	
		Occurrence Type: Accident		Investigated By: NTSB	
Location/Time					
Nearest City/Place DENVER	State CO	Zip Code 80249	Local Time 1325	Time Zone MDT	
Airport Proximity: On Airport		Distance From Landing Facility:		Direction From Airport:	
Aircraft Information Summary					
Aircraft Manufacturer Boeing		Model/Series 737-201		Type of Aircraft Airplane	
Sightseeing Flight: No			Air Medical Transport Flight: No		
Narrative					
<p>Brief narrative statement of facts, conditions and circumstances pertinent to the accident/incident:</p> <p>On May 4, 1997, approximately 1325 mountain daylight time, a cabin crew member aboard a parked Boeing 737-201, N217US, was seriously injured when he fell from the aircraft. The airplane was not damaged and there were no injuries to the two cockpit crew members, two other cabin crew members, and 92 passengers. Visual meteorological conditions existed, and an IFR flight plan had been filed.</p> <p>According to the accident report submitted by Frontier Airlines, Inc., the airplane was operating as flight 128, scheduled domestic passenger service to Minneapolis, Minnesota. The airplane was ready for pushback from gate A-36 when the "B" flight attendant told the "A" flight attendant that a thru passenger had reported that the cabin cleaning crew had mistakenly removed his child's stuffed animal and that he wanted it returned. The "A" attendant opened the forward entry door after the jetway had backed away from the airplane. Either losing his balance or not realizing the jetway had backed away, he fell 8 feet, 3 inches to the tarmac below. His injuries consisted of two fractured wrists, a fractured jaw, and a concussion. Both "B" and "C" flight attendants witnessed the accident.</p> <p>According to Frontier Airlines chief flight attendant, flight attendants are thoroughly trained on procedures for opening cabin entry doors. First, the flight attendant disables the emergency evacuation slide system, then peers through the door's porthole to make sure the jetway or stairs are in place. Next, the station makes a coded knock on the door. The cabin attendant then "cracks" the door before opening it completely. She said the injured flight attendant violated company policy and procedures that resulted in the accident.</p>					
FACTUAL REPORT - AVIATION					
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		NTSB ID: FTW97LA177			
		Occurrence Date: 05/04/1997			
		Occurrence Type: Accident			
Landing Facility/Approach Information					
Airport Name	Airport ID:	Airport Elevation	Runway Used	Runway Length	Runway Width
DENVER INTERNATIONAL	DEN	5431 Ft. MSL	0		
Runway Surface Type:					
Runway Surface Condition:					
Type Instrument Approach:					
VFR Approach/Landing:					
Aircraft Information					
Aircraft Manufacturer		Model/Series		Serial Number	
Boeing		737-201		20215	
Airworthiness Certificate(s): Transport					
Landing Gear Type: Retractable - Tricycle					
Homebuilt Aircraft? No	Number of Seats: 116	Certified Max Gross Wt.	109000 LBS	Number of Engines: 2	
Engine Type:	Engine Manufacturer:	Model/Series:	Rated Power:		
Turbo Jet	P&W	JT8D-9A	14500 LBS		
- Aircraft Inspection Information					
Type of Last Inspection	Date of Last Inspection	Time Since Last Inspection	Airframe Total Time		
AAIP	05/1997	3 Hours	65179 Hours		
- Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) Information					
ELT Installed? No	ELT Operated?	ELT Aided in Locating Accident Site?			
Owner/Operator Information					
Registered Aircraft Owner		Street Address			
FIRST SECURITY BANK, N.A.		79 S. MAIN ST.			
		City	State	Zip Code	
		SALT LAKE CITY	UT	84111	
Operator of Aircraft		Street Address			
FRONTIER AIRLINES, INC.		12015 E. 46TH AVE., SUITE 200			
		City	State	Zip Code	
		DENVER	CO	80239	
Operator Does Business As:			Operator Designator Code: F3LA		
- Type of U.S. Certificate(s) Held:					
Air Carrier Operating Certificate(s): Flag Carrier/Domestic					
Operating Certificate:			Operator Certificate:		
Regulation Flight Conducted Under: Part 121: Air Carrier					
Type of Flight Operation Conducted: Scheduled; Domestic; Passenger Only					
FACTUAL REPORT - AVIATION					

 <p>National Transportation Safety Board FACTUAL REPORT AVIATION</p>	NTSB ID: FTW97LA177
	Occurrence Date: 05/04/1997
	Occurrence Type: Accident

First Pilot Information

Name On File	City On File	State On File	Date of Birth On File	Age 50
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Sex: M	Seat Occupied: Left	Principal Profession: Civilian Pilot	Certificate Number: On File
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Certificate(s): Airline Transport; Flight Instructor; Commercial

Airplane Rating(s): Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land

Rotorcraft/Glider/LTA: None

Instrument Rating(s): Airplane

Instructor Rating(s): Airplane Multi-engine; Airplane Single-engine; Instrument Airplane

Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft? Yes	Current Biennial Flight Review?
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Medical Cert.: Class 1	Medical Cert. Status: Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Date of Last Medical Exam: 12/1996
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- Flight Time Matrix	All A/C	This Make and Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multi-Engine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
						Actual	Simulated			
Total Time	8257	1307	2872	5385	613	800				
Pilot In Command(PIC)	7605	1257								
Instructor	1774		401	1373						
Last 90 Days	185	185		185						
Last 30 Days	66	66		66						
Last 24 Hours	3	3		3						

Seatbelt Used? Yes	Shoulder Harness Used? Yes	Toxicology Performed?	Second Pilot? Yes
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Flight Plan/Itinerary

Type of Flight Plan Filed: IFR	
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Departure Point Same as Accident/Incident Location	State	Airport Identifier DEN	Departure Time 0000	Time Zone
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Destination MINNEAPOLIS	State MN	Airport Identifier MSP	
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Type of Clearance: None

Type of Airspace:

Weather Information

Source of Briefing:
Company

Method of Briefing:

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Weather Information					
WOF ID	Observation Time	Time Zone	WOF Elevation	WOF Distance From Accident Site	Direction From Accident Site
DEN	1253	MDT	5431 Ft. MSL	0 NM	0 Deg. Mag.
Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition: Scattered			12000 Ft. AGL	Condition of Light: Day	
Lowest Ceiling: None		0 Ft. AGL	Visibility: 10	SM	Altimeter: 30.00 "Hg
Temperature: 24 °C	Dew Point: -1 °C	Wind Direction: 220		Density Altitude: 7470 Ft.	
Wind Speed: 8	Gusts:	Weather Conditions at Accident Site: Visual Conditions			
Visibility (RVR): 0 Ft.	Visibility (RVV) 0	SM	Intensity of Precipitation: Unknown		
Restrictions to Visibility: None					
Type of Precipitation: None					

Accident Information		
Aircraft Damage: None	Aircraft Fire: Unknown	Aircraft Explosion: Unknown

Classification: U.S. Registered/U.S. Soil					
- Injury Summary Matrix	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None	TOTAL
First Pilot				1	1
Second Pilot				1	1
Student Pilot					
Flight Instructor					
Check Pilot					
Flight Engineer					
Cabin Attendants		1		2	3
Other Crew					
Passengers				92	92
- TOTAL ABOARD -		1		96	97
Other Ground	0	0	0		0
- GRAND TOTAL -	0	1	0	96	97

National Transportation Safety Board

FACTUAL REPORT

AVIATION



NTSB ID: FTW97LA177

Occurrence Date: 05/04/1997

Occurrence Type: Accident

Administrative Information

Investigator-In-Charge (IIC)

ARNOLD W. SCOTT

Additional Persons Participating in This Accident/Incident Investigation:

ALVIN H HANKINS
FAA FSDO
DENVER, CO 80249