

747 PK
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25 of 212 Hurt in Jet Takeoff

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI)—A Pan American 747 with 212 persons aboard hit a runway light on takeoff Friday, injuring 25 persons in the worst accident for the jumbo jetliners since they went into service more than 18 months ago.

The damaged plane was the first 747 built for commercial use by Boeing but didn't join Pan Am's fleet until nine months after the airline's inaugural jumbo jet flight on Jan. 21, 1970.

After circling the airport for two hours, the plane made a safe but spectacular emergency landing.

"It didn't get up in the air fast enough and hit something at the end of the runway," said passenger Teresa Galloway. "Part of the inside seat sections were pushed up and that's how people got hurt."

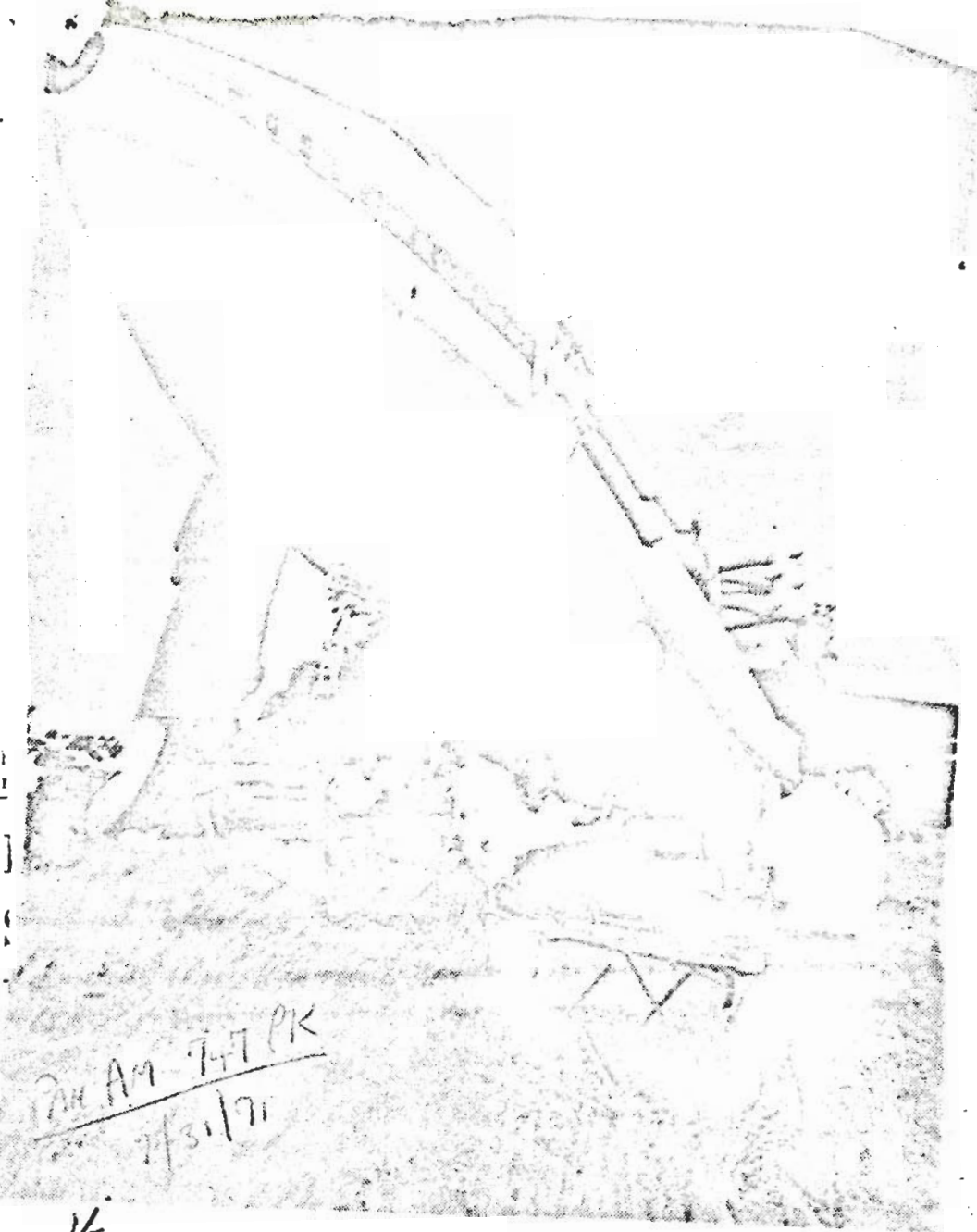
Mrs. Galloway, wife of Joseph Galloway, UPI Indonesian manager in Jakarta, said she felt "three or four loud thumps" as the plane lifted off. "That scared everybody, but we kept going and thought everything was okay until they called a doctor."

"I looked into the back section and all the masks were hanging down. The middle seat section was punched up out of shape. One man had his leg pretty much cut off."

The flight was No. 845 which originated in Los Angeles and stopped in San Francisco before continuing on to Tokyo.

The San Mateo County sheriff's office said 25 persons were injured, including four hurt seriously enough to be removed from the plane on stretchers. One man's leg was cut off.

The Federal Aviation Agency said it was the first "personal injury" accident for a 747, which can carry loads of more than 400 persons.



FREAK AIRLINE ACCIDENT PUTS 12 IN HOSPITAL—A piece of steel pierced eight rows of seats when the launching gear struck a runway approach light as a 747 jumbo jet was taking off at San Francisco Friday. One passenger had an arm nearly severed and suffered a fractured knee, another had to have a foot amputated later. Doctors on the flight cared for the injured aboard until the plane could dump fuel and land two hours after the takeoff. Twelve persons were hospitalized.

AP Wirephoto

CONTACTS

JUST BEFORE THIS CALAMITY OCCURRED,
I SENT YOU A LETTER STATING IN
WRITING NOW I HAD "PK'D" THE 747'S
(ESPECIALLY PAN AM) FOR PRECISELY
THIS EFFECT.

Wenz
X

(I DIDN'T WANT ANYONE HURT TH...)