



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	LAS VEGAS, NV	Accident Number:	LAX99LA087
Date & Time:	02/01/1999, 0710 PST	Registration:	N640AW
Aircraft:	Airbus Industrie A-320-232	Injuries:	1 Serious, 134 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 121: Air Carrier - Scheduled		

Analysis

According to the statements of the three cabin attendants and the flight crew, the aircraft had been in light to moderate turbulence for most of the flight. The seat belt sign was illuminated and several public address system announcements had been made for the passengers to remain seated with their seat belts fastened. The flight and cabin crewmembers reported that at the time of the incident the turbulence had abated and the ride was smooth; however, the seat belt sign remained illuminated. A 70-year-old male passenger in seat 23C got up and began walking toward the aft lavatory. One cabin attendant told the passenger to return to his seat unless it was an absolute necessity to visit the lavatory. The passenger, who has two artificial legs, declined to follow the cabin attendant's instruction and continued to the aft galley area where he fell, fracturing his hip. The crew obtained medical advice by radio from Med Link, and, after consultation with a physician, the aircraft continued to its destination.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The injured passenger's failure to follow the instructions of the cabin attendants.

Findings

Occurrence #1: MISCELLANEOUS/OTHER
Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

1. (C) PROCEDURES/DIRECTIVES - NOT COMPLIED WITH - PASSENGER

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport	Age:	35
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	14000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1300 hours (Total, this make and model), 90 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 50 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Airbus Industrie	Registration:	N640AW
Model/Series:	A-320-232 A320-232	Engines:	2 Turbo Fan
Operator:	AMERICA WEST AIRLINES, INC.	Engine Manufacturer:	Int'l Aero En
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Flag carrier (121)	Engine Model/Series:	V2527
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 121: Air Carrier - Scheduled		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Pilot
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	80 knots / , 280°
Temperature:		Visibility	20 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	TAMPA, FL (TPA)	Destination:	(LAS)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	5 None	Aircraft Damage:	None
Passenger Injuries:	1 Serious, 129 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:			

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	JEFF RICH	Adopted Date:	01/18/2001
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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