Aviation Safety Investigation Report 199402936

Boeing Co B737

07 October 1994

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Investigations commenced on or before 30 June 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the Executive Director of the Bureau in accordance with Part 2A of the Air Navigation Act 1920.

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NOTE: All air safety occurrences reported to the ATSB are categorised and recorded. For a detailed explanation on Category definitions please refer to the ATSB website at www.atsb.gov.au.

Occurrence Number: 199402936 Occurrence Type: Incident

Location: Canberra

State: ACT Inv Category: 4

Date: Friday 07 October 1994

Time: 2130 hours Time Zone EST

Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Boeing Co

Manufacturer:

Aircraft Model: 737-377
Aircraft Registration: VH-CZI

Aircraft Registration: VH-CZJ Serial 23662

Number:

Type of Operation: Air Transport Domestic High Capacity Passenger

Scheduled

Damage to Aircraft: Nil

Departure Point: Adelaide SA

Departure Time:

Destination: Canberra ACT

Approved for Release: Thursday, January 5, 1995

While approaching 6000 feet on descent into Canberra the aircraft entered an area of severe turbulence. The turbulence had not been forecast and lasted for about one minute.

Prior to penetrating the turbulence the flight attendants had prepared the aircraft for landing but not all had taken their seats. Two of the non seated flight attendants were thrown about the cabin but were not injured. The aircraft was climbed to 8000 feet for a smoother ride to allow all on board to be seated.

One seated flight attendant had the shoulder harness pull through the bulkhead fitting. It was suspected that the harness had been incorrectly routed through the fitting. A fleet check was initiated to inspect all seat harnesses for correct installation. No further examples of incorrect installation were found.