Aviation Safety Investigation Report 199403796

Boeing Co
B747

14 December 1994

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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.

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The Bureau did not conduct an on scene investigation of this occurrence. The information presented below was obtained from information supplied to the Bureau.

Occurrence Number: 199403796 **Occurrence Type:** Incident
Location: 180km SSE Cunnamulla
State: NSW **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Wednesday 14 December 1994
Time: 1523 hours **Time Zone** ESuT
Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: Boeing Co
Aircraft Model: 747-200
Aircraft Registration: EI-BZA **Serial Number:**
Type of Operation: Air Transport International
Damage to Aircraft: Nil
Departure Point: Sydney NSW
Departure Time: 1433 ESuT
Destination: Manilla

Approved for Release: Thursday, February 2, 1995

The crew of PAL210 transferred from Melbourne Control (Sector 6) to Brisbane Control (Sector 5) at 1523 hours. On first contact with Brisbane Control they advised an estimate of 1527 hours for Cunnamulla. The Brisbane controller had not received co-ordination from Melbourne Sector 6 on the prior position of the aircraft. He only held an estimate based on the departure time and the flight plan time intervals. That estimate was 1534 hours.

Investigation revealed a breakdown had occurred at Melbourne Sector 6, the control position responsible for the co-ordination. This had happened at the time of hand over of responsibilities at the end of a shift. The controller going off duty indicated to the controller coming on duty the need for co-ordination in respect of PAL210 but the manner in which he did this was misinterpreted by the on-coming controller and the required co-ordination was not done.

Significant Factor

The following factor was considered relevant to the development of the incident:

1. A misunderstanding occurred between the controller going off duty and the controller coming on duty.