

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
199301558**

**Boeing Co  
B737-400**

**29 May 1993**

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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](http://www.atsb.gov.au).**

**Occurrence Number:** 199301558                      **Occurrence Type:** Incident  
**Location:** Ayers Rock  
**State:** NT    **Inv Category:** 4  
**Date:** Saturday 29 May 1993  
**Time:** 1300 hours                              **Time Zone** CST  
**Highest Injury Level:** None

**Aircraft** Boeing Co  
**Manufacturer:**  
**Aircraft Model:** 737-476  
**Aircraft Registration:** VH-TJQ    **Serial Number:** 24442  
**Type of Operation:** Air Transport Domestic High Capacity Passenger  
Scheduled  
**Damage to Aircraft:** Nil  
**Departure Point:** Alice Springs NT  
**Departure Time:** 1220 CST  
**Destination:** Ayers Rock NT

**Approved for Release:** Monday, October 18, 1993

When about to turn base for runway 31, the crew of VH-TJQ sighted two light aircraft heading in the opposite direction on the active side of the circuit. From prior communication, the crew of TJQ believed the two aircraft were joining the circuit on the dead side. The pilots of the two light aircraft spoke with American accents and were part of a group visiting Australia. Separation was maintained but it appeared to the crew of TJQ that the pilots of the light aircraft were not familiar with local procedures.

The following factors were considered relevant to the development of the occurrence:

Foreign aircrew apparently unfamiliar with local procedures.

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