Boeing 747-SP, YK-AHA

AAIB Bulletin No: 12/99 Ref: EW/G99/09/02 Category: 1.1

Aircraft Type and Registration: Boeing 747-SP, YK-AHA

No & Type of Engines: 4 JT-9D turbofan engines

Year of Manufacture: 1976

Date & Time (UTC): 2 September 1999 at 1100 hrs

Location: London Heathrow Airport

Type of Flight: Public Transport (Passenger)

Persons on Board: Crew - 13 - Passengers - 110

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: 29 cm vertical dent in No 4 engine exhaust cone

Commander's Licence: Airline Transport Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 62 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 23,000 hours (of which 7,000 were on type)

Last 90 days - 46 hours

Last 28 days - 14 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was stationary on Stand G12 at London Heathrow and passengers were boarding. The Flight Engineer was carrying out an external inspection of the aircraft when he noticed a vertical dent in the outboard side of the No 4 engine exhaust tail cone. Following inspection and repair by a maintenance organisation the aircraft was returned to service.

The damage occurred when a loading vehicle reversed into the exhaust cone whilst approaching the aft cargo bay door of the aircraft. The vehicle was being reversed without the aid of an external guide.