

From Dryden to Bill C-7 Legacy and insight

Presented by Capt Donald L Van Dyke, FRAeS June 12, 2008

to



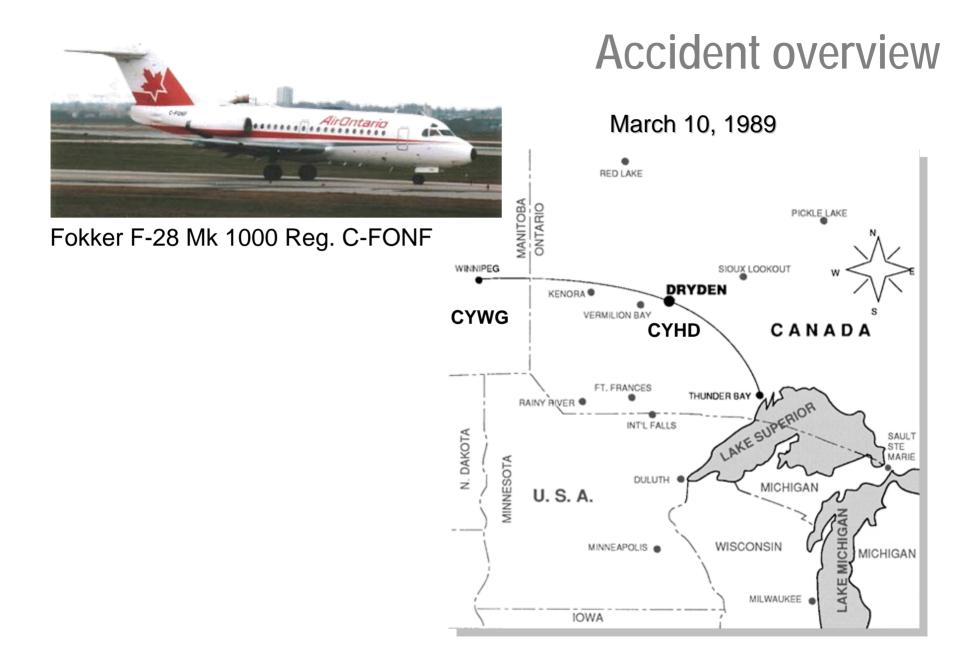
System Safety Society Eastern Canada Chapter RCAF Officers' Mess, Ottawa, Ontario



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Dryden Commission of Inquiry Judicial roles in Canadian aviation safety Internationalizing Dryden's outcomes





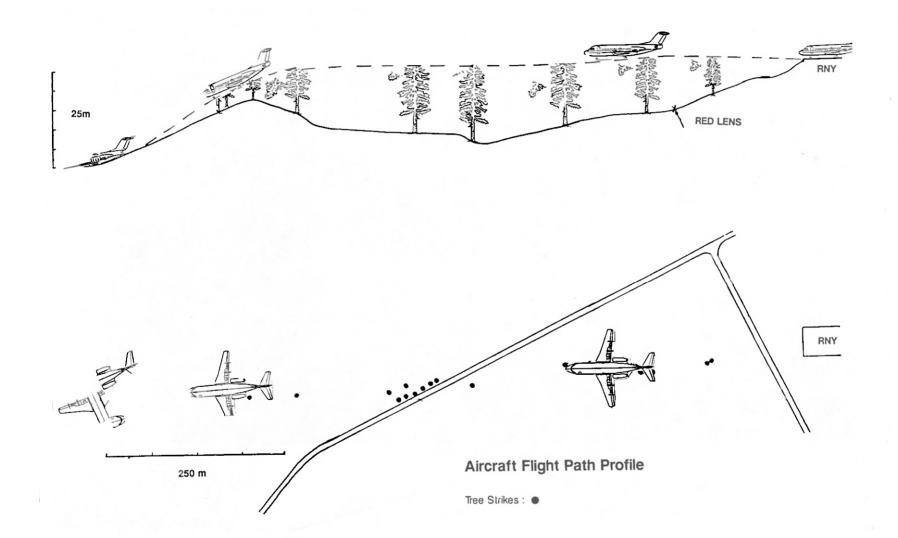
Accident overview



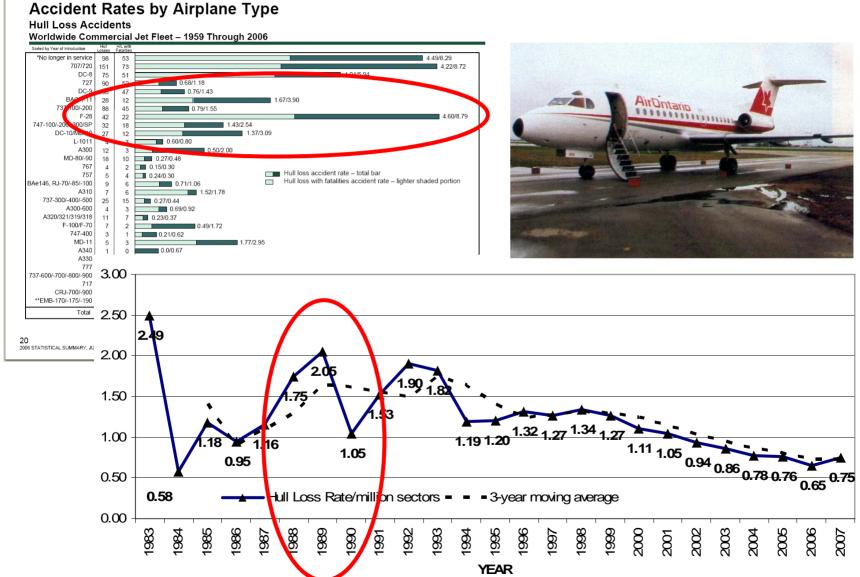
- Crashed on take-off due icing
- Fatalities: 3 crew/21 passengers



Accident overview



Accident overview



Dryden Commission of Inquiry Demise of CASB

Canadian Aviation Safety Board (CASB)

- Mandated to ascertain probable cause
- Mishandled Arrow Air DC-8 crash at Gander
- Methods more than just questionable
- Halted in favour of Commission of Inquiry



New accident investigation philosophy

Prevailing philosophy

- Pilot error
- Probable cause
- Generic culpability

New philosophy

- Other probable cause
- Contributory factors
- Attributed culpability



The Honourable Virgil P. Moshansky, C.M., Q.C., FRAeS Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta (Ret.)

Dryden Commission of Inquiry Establishing credibility

- Independence and dignity
- Transparency
- Freedom from constraint or influence



Challenges to the Commission

Attempts to influence

- Sheltering evidence
- Invoking state secret provisions
- Limiting scope of findings
- Denying access to witnesses
- Questioning competence
- Trivializing recommendations

Prominent findings

Pilot error

• Flawed decision to attempt take-off

Systemic failures

- Inadequate aviation legislation
- Inappropriate financial emphasis
- Insufficient human resources
- Inadequate regulatory oversight

Recommendations

Final Report

• Made 191 major recommendations

Selected outcomes

- New Aeronautics Act and Canadian Aviation Regulations (CARs)
- *Hot refuelling* prohibited
- Clean wing concept regulated
- De-/anti-icing processes enhanced
- Human factors training mandated

Dryden Commission Implementation Project

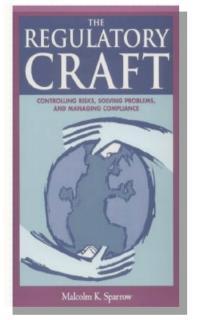
- 12 Task Groups formed to implement recommendations
- Task Groups later converted into Canadian Aviation Regulatory Advisory Council (CARAC)



Judicial roles in aviation safety Unresolved issues

- Oversight
- Confidentiality and secrecy
- Causality
- Regulation and promotion

Unresolved issues The search for answers



Brookings Institution

 Social regulation strives to abate or control risks to society

 Regulator is responsible for the delivery of obligations, not just services

Access to safety information

Needs Balance		
Protect safety information	ICAO	Proper administration of justice
Enable people to participate more effectively in governing the State	Australia	Make persons and bodies responsible for government more accountable to the public
Encourage reporting of safety concerns without self- incrimination	Canada	To use information possessed by the Minister

Protection of safety information



Art 44 Safe and orderly growth

Protection of safety information



WHAT IS PROTECTED?

ICAO

Ann 13 Para 5.12 Non-disclosure of records

- Statements
- Communications between involved persons
- Medical and private information
- CVRs and transcripts
- Analytical opinions Ann 13 Para 8.3 Incident reporting systems
- Voluntary incident reporting systems Ann 13 Attach. E Legal guidance
- Safety Data Collection & Processing Systems

Ann 6 para 3.2.4 Accident prevention and flight safety programme Flight data analysis programmes

PROTECTED AGAINST WHAT?

- Admissibility in judicial proceedings
- Inappropriate use

Accountability and responsibility C-7§4.2 (1) and §4.9.c.1(i)(B)

Minister

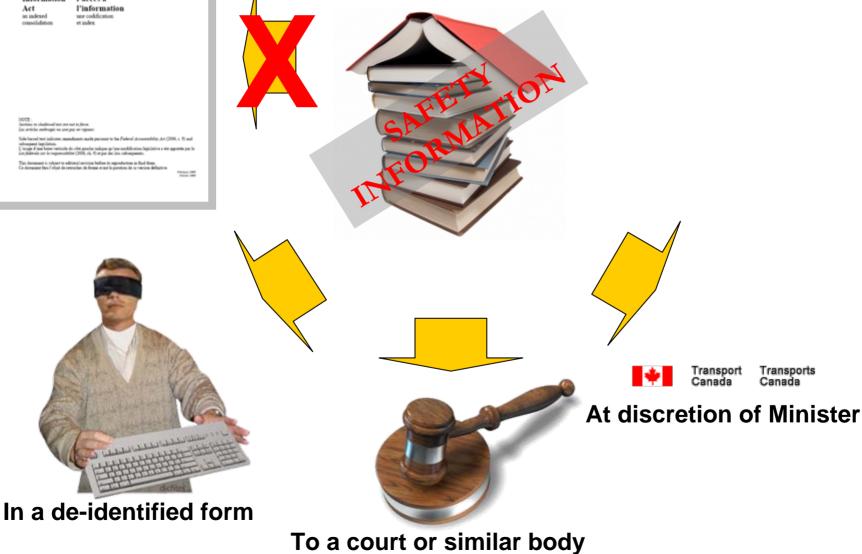
- Develop and regulate aeronautics (§4.2 (1))
- Supervise all matters connected with aeronautics
- Executive (of a Canadian aviation document holder)
- Be accountable for extent to which requirements have been met



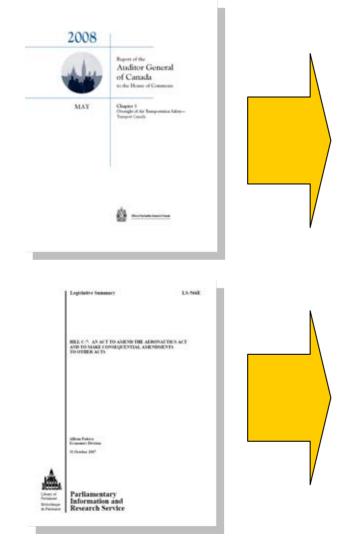
Access to information C-7§5.392(1)

Access to Loi sur Information l'accès à Act an indexed consolidation et index

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Vulnerabilities of change



- Lack of precedents
- No risk assessment performed
- No fail-safe protocol(s) established
- Insufficient provision for review of oversight performance
- Inappropriate sealing of information
- Inadequate provision for needed culture change
 - Comprehensive aviation safety whistleblower protection needed

Whistleblower protection C-7§5.392 (3) and (4)

(In)famous aerospace whistleblowers

Roger Boisjoly: Rogers Commission on Challenger

Bobby Boutris/Douglas Peters (FAA): Congressional hearings on Southwest Airlines

Judicial roles in aviation safety Effectiveness of the Judiciary

- Vested power
- Freedom and independence
- Authority to:
 - Order and subpoena
 - Compel testimony under oath
 - Hold witnesses in contempt
 - Open hearings to the public
 - Facilitate cross-examination under oath

Judicial roles in aviation safety Dryden precursors resurrected

- Adverse economic conditions
- Diminished regulatory oversight
- Inadequate aviation legislation
 - Reduced redundancy
 - Squandered resources
 - False premises
 - Abdicated regulatory responsibilities
 - Insufficient whistleblower protection
 - Unrealistic implementation schedule
 - Reliance on biased reporting

Judicial roles in aviation safety Oversight and safety performance linked

- Lack of regulatory oversight a causal influence in numerous accidents
- Economic pressures can lead to white-collar crime and violations of regulations
- Inadequate legislation fails to avoid subverted innovation and technology
- Linkage recognized by industry itself

Judicial roles in aviation safety Conclusions regarding Canadian aviation safety

Judiciary must

- Hold system accountable to public
- Respond to public need for assurance
- Periodically check organizational vital signs

Commission of Inquiry

- Urgently needed
- Parliamentary action needed to enable periodic judicial review

Internationalizing Dryden The State and aviation system safety

Principle of jus cogens

• Norms from which no derogation is permitted

State responsibilities

- Ensure safety through regulatory oversight
- Especially incumbent on States with major aviation industries

Internationalizing Dryden The regulator and aviation system safety

Regulator responsibilities

- Give primacy to safety of air navigation
- Conduct comprehensive surveillance
- Monitor/improve safety system performance
- Implement international enhancements

Delegations and authorities

- Regulator remains accountable
- Excessive delegation leads to de-skilling

Internationalizing Dryden The judiciary and aviation system safety

Possible judicial responsibilities:

- Periodically evaluate safety system
- Provide expert view of national needs
 Requisites to act:
- Currently at the behest of the State
- Usually only when system is broken
- Participation needs to be institutionalized

Internationalizing Dryden Public international law and aviation system safety

Chicago Convention and Annexes:

- Enforceability limited
- Certain States have:
 - Insufficient resources and poor oversight
 - No or inadequate national regulations
 - Minimal commitment to aviation concerns
- States to faithfully implement SARPs
 Judiciary evaluates fidelity of implementation

Conclusions

Judicial review

- Process to be institutionalized
- SARPs needed to internationalize concept

Commissions of Inquiry

- Headed by superior court judge
- Conducts periodic judicial review
- Evaluates national aviation safety
- Reports findings to State and ICAO

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QUESTIONS