

AIR BULLETIN

NO. ●AV/ACC/1/96

Aircraft type & Registration : Cessna 172: 5H-BIG
Date and time : 18 January, 1996 at 1302 hours
Location : Kazimzumbu Kilimani Village,
Kisarawe
Type of Flight ; Scheduled flight
Persons on board : 2
Injuries : NIL
Nature of damage : Minor damage to right wing
Commander's Licence : CPL
Experience : 10900 hours.

ALL TIMES UTC

The aircraft was operating a scheduled company flight covering sectors DAR ES SALAAM/SIWANDU/KIBA/RUAHA/DAR ES SALAAM. It took off from Dar es Salaam at 0735 hours with one pilot and three passengers. The flight landed at siwandu at 0816 hours. Two passengers disembarked here and 5H-BIG took off for Kiba at 0832 hours. The pilot said that the aircraft was refueled to full tanks at Kiba. Two passengers joined the flight and take off for Ruaha was initiated 0859 hours. The aircraft landed at Ruaha at 1034 hours. Two passengers disembarked at Ruaha and 5H-BIG took off for DAR ES SALAAM at 10.44 hours.

The pilot said that he climbed to flight level 115 with the fuel selector on the right tank. When the aircraft was flying over Mikumi the right tank was depleted and the left tank (which was full) was selected. 45 minutes later the tank indication was between ~~1/4~~. From then on the fuel gauge needle moved unusually fast and was reading zero by 1300 hours. The engine also stopped at this time at 11,500 feet when the aircraft was between Kisarawe and Mzenga Railway Station.

The pilot informed the Dar es Salaam approach that was force-landing on the Kisarawe/Mvuha road and gave his position as (0703S, 3858E). 5H-BIG subsequently executed a safe force landing on a stretch of an unpaved road at Kazimzumbwi village at 1308 hours. The two occupants disembarked safely.

Another aircraft, 5H-RHS, took off from Dar es Salaam 15 minutes later and confirmed the position of the aircraft.

Examination of the aircraft fuel tanks showed that there was no fuel in both tanks. The two fuel corks were found properly tightened. When 20 litres of fuel were filled in each tank there were no leaks. After a successful engine run the aircraft took off for Dar es Salaam at 1521 hrs. It landed at Dar es Salaam at 1533hrs.