

Last updated: 3 February 2022

Status:

Date: Sunday 19 February 1989

Time: 06:36



Type: [Boeing 747-249F](#)

Operator: [Flying Tiger Line](#)

Registration: N807FT

MSN: 21828/408

First flight: 1979-11-01 (9 years 4 months)

Total airframe hrs: 34000

Cycles: 9000

Engines: 4 [Pratt & Whitney JT9D-7Q](#)


Crew: Fatalities: 4 / Occupants: 4

Passengers: Fatalities: 0 / Occupants: 0

Total: Fatalities: 4 / Occupants: 4

Aircraft damage: Destroyed

Aircraft fate: Written off (damaged beyond repair)

Location: 12 km (7.5 mls) from Kuala Lumpur Subang International Airport (KUL) ( [Malaysia](#))

Crash site elevation: 180 m (591 feet) amsl

Phase: Approach (APR)

Nature: Cargo

Departure airport: [Singapore-Changi International Airport \(SIN/WSSS\)](#), Singapore

Destination airport: [Kuala Lumpur Subang International Airport \(KUL/WMKK\)](#), Malaysia

Flightnumber: 66

Narrative:

The Boeing, named "Thomas Haywood", was less than half loaded with textiles, computer software and mail when it departed Singapore. Approaching Kuala Lumpur, the crew were cleared to route direct to the Kayell (KL) beacon for a runway 33 approach. While on the NDB approach, the crew were cleared to "...descend two four zero zero..." which was interpreted by the crew as "...to 400...". The aircraft descended below minimum altitude and crashed into a hillside at 600 feet/180 m msl just before reaching the Kayell NDB, where minimum descent height was 2400 feet. The Boeing hit treetops and started to break up until bursting into flames.

Probable Cause:

PROBABLE CAUSE: Non-standard phraseology was used by Kuala Lumpur ATC, causing the crew to misinterpret the instructions.

Classification:

[Language/communication problems](#)

[Controlled Flight Into Terrain \(CFIT\) - Mountain](#)

Sources:

» Aviation Week & Space Technology 27.02.89 (24)

» Flight International 17-12 January 1990 (p.44)

» ICAO Adrep Summary

Photos



accident date: 19-02-1989  
type: Boeing 747-249F  
registration: N807FT



accident date: 19-02-1989  
type: Boeing 747-249F  
registration: N807FT

#### Video, social media

##### CRM Concepts video Flying Tigers Flight 66 Feb 18 1989 accident

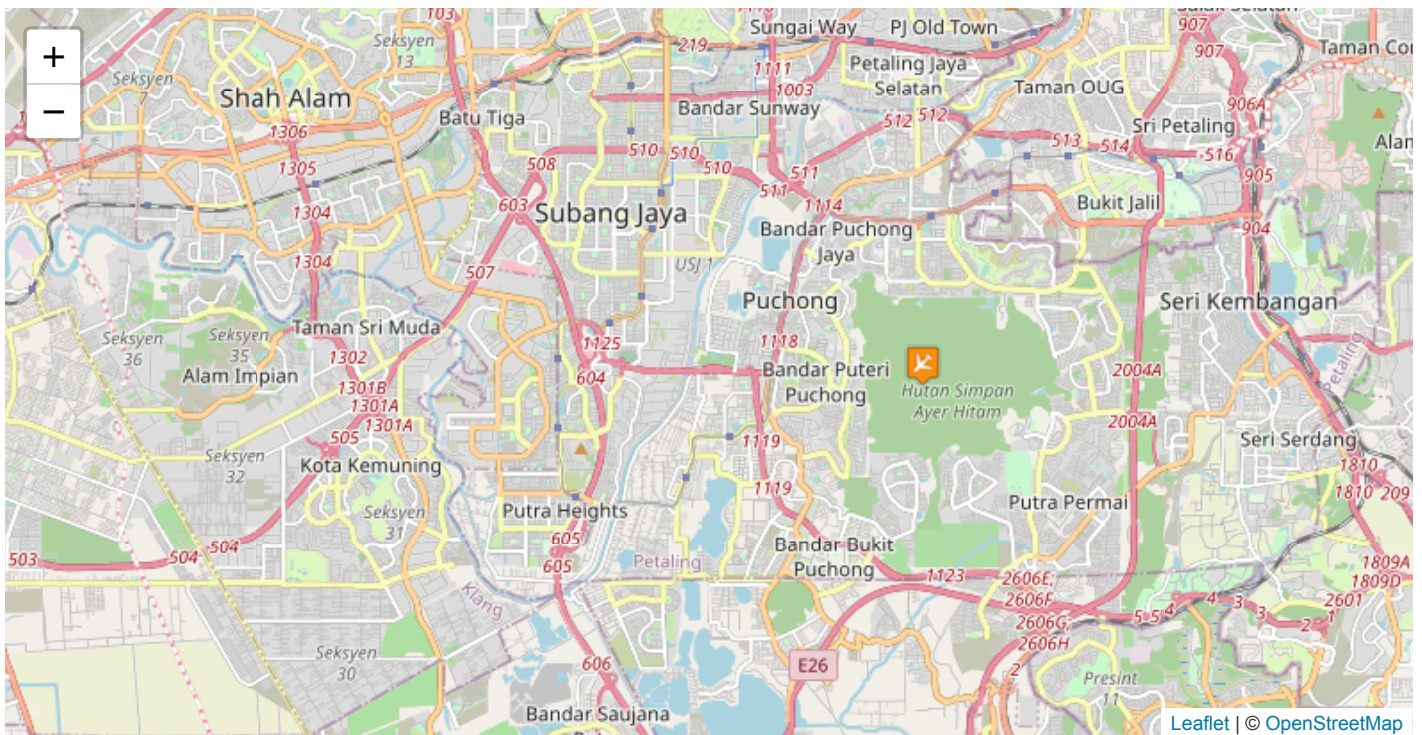


#### Map

This map shows the airport of departure and the intended destination of the flight. The line between the airports does not display the exact flight path.

Distance from Singapore-Changi International Airport to Kuala Lumpur Subang International Airport as the crow flies is 296 km (185 miles).

Accident location: Approximate; accuracy within a few kilometers.



This information is not presented as the Flight Safety Foundation or the Aviation Safety Network's opinion as to the cause of the accident. It is preliminary and is based on the facts as they are known at this time.

languages:

Share

Share 0

Tweet

Boeing 747



- 1551+ built
- 19<sup>th</sup> loss
- 13<sup>th</sup> fatal accident
- 13<sup>th</sup> worst accident (at the time)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> worst accident (currently)

» [safety\\_profile](#)

Malaysia

- 21<sup>st</sup> worst accident (at the time)
- 26<sup>th</sup> worst accident (currently)

» [safety\\_profile](#)

- [Home](#)
- [Disclaimer](#)
- [Copyright](#)
- [Privacy](#)
- [Send correction / feedback](#)
- 

• Unless otherwise stated: copyright © 1996-2022 Aviation Safety Network (ASN)