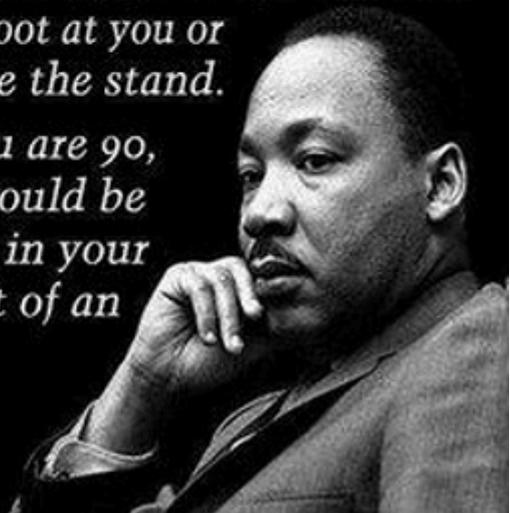


Dramatic footage shows terrifying moment passengers cower in terror as Boeing 767 lands and skids along runway on its belly

The Daily Mail

“You may be 38 years old, as I happen to be. And one day, some great opportunity stands before you and calls you to stand up for some great principle, some great issue, some great cause. And you refuse to do it because you are afraid... You refuse to do it because you want to live longer.... You're afraid that you will lose your job, or you are afraid that you will be criticized or that you will lose your popularity, or you're afraid that somebody will stab you, or shoot at you or bomb your house; so you refuse to take the stand. Well, you may go on and live until you are 90, but you're just as dead at 38 as you would be at 90. And the cessation of breathing in your life is but the belated announcement of an earlier death of the spirit.”

- Martin Luther King Jr.



[Spivs Comment](#)

I imagine that you're wondering why this news item is on a site like mine. The answer to that is for no other reason than I want to shake the hand of the man, whom I like to think was sat there, laughing his cock off while filming the rest of the passengers cacking their pants.

If you're time is up, your time is up... Why worry. That man is my Hero of the Day.

- Giant aeroplane carrying 230 people nearly crashed in November 2011
- It ran into trouble between Newark, New Jersey, and Warsaw, Poland
- Passengers were sobbing and texting their goodbyes to relatives

By [LEON WATSON](#)

UPDATED: 22:01, 9 February 2013

Dramatic new footage has emerged of the moment passengers cowered in terror as a giant Boeing 767 was forced into an emergency landing.

The aeroplane carrying 230 people suffered catastrophic equipment failure while flying from Newark, New Jersey, to Warsaw, Poland, in November 2011.

The pilot was forced to bring it in to land at Warsaw airport with no wheels after all its landing gear failed and the aircraft skidded along the tarmac on its belly.



Passengers aboard LOT Polish Airlines Flight 16 prepared for the worst after being told that their plane would make an emergency landing



The passengers' terrifying ordeal on LOT Polish Airlines Flight 16 was caught on tape

Sparks flew and a fire broke out in the starboard engine before it came to a halt. But, incredibly, nobody on the flight was injured.

Eighteen months on and footage has emerged from inside the

cabin as the plane hit the runway. Terrified passengers had been fully aware there was a major problem and the aircraft was in trouble.

American business class passenger told [MSNBC's Rock Center with Brian Williams](#) he texted his wife Michelle to tell her there was a problem and that he loved her.

More...

- [Boeing were allowed to carry out their own safety checks on Dreamliner jets as there were no federal guidelines for testing lithium batteries that grounded the fleet](#)
- [Boeing asks for permission to start new Dreamliner flights despite 'exploding battery' mystery](#)

He told her: 'We're making an emergency landing, I think we will be OK. I love you and thank God for you and our children. I am sorry to text you this but I love you so much.'

As the situation unfolded emergency services were waiting at the end of the runway to deal with any potential disaster, while two F-16 fighter jets escorted it to the ground.

The pilot had radioed ahead to let the control tower know there was a problem with deploying the landing gear. After several attempts, however, it was decided that the aircraft would have to come down without any wheels.



Terrifying touch down: The Boeing 767 hits the ground in Warsaw on its belly after a catastrophic failure of all its landing gear



Drama: Flames and sparks burst from the aircraft as it slides along the ground without any means of braking



Rescue: Fire engines spray fire retardant foam on the LOT Polish airlines plane after it comes to a standstill. Astonishingly none of the 230 people on board were injured



Miraculous: Passengers escaped down the plane's emergency chutes after the landing at Warsaw. No one was injured



Safe landing: The Boeing 767 came down on foam sprayed on the tarmac in an attempt to dampen any fires that broke out. While the plane circled the Polish capital for an hour, dumping excess fuel and repeatedly trying to solve the problem, ground crews prepared for a crash landing, closing the airport to all other flights and clearing nearby streets.

Waiting fire crews also sprayed the runway with foam in a bid to prevent a fire from breaking out.

The pilot lifted the nose of the aircraft slightly as it approached the tarmac. As it slid along the runway, smoke billowed from the undercarriage followed by bright flashes from under the engines.



Relief: Passengers from the Boeing 767 were confronted with a media scrum as they disembarked the plane following an horrendous ordeal



Traumatized passengers did not want to speak to reporters as they tried to leave the airport but others relived their ordeal for the news crews

When it came to a halt, fire engines that were waiting along the sides and at the end of the tarmac rushed towards the plane, dowsing it with foam. Meanwhile, passengers were quickly taken off down the inflatable chutes on either side.

News channels and TV crews were on the scene soon after learning about the emergency and the incredible landing was beamed live around the world.

The captain, Tadeusz Wrona, was hailed a hero by Poland's President Bronislaw Komorowski, as well as by the airport staff and the Polish media.

LOT airlines president, Marcin Pirog, said that Captain

Tadeusz Wrona and co-pilot Jerzy Szwartz carried out a 'perfect emergency landing,' which prevented anyone from being injured.

Poland's President Bronisław Komorowski congratulated and thanked the crew and emergency workers for ensuring no one was hurt.

'I thank everyone with my whole heart in the name of Poland,' said Komorowski.

Read

more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2276201/Dramatic-footage-shows-terrifying-moment-passengers-cower-terror-Boeing-767-lands-skids-runway-belly.html#ixzz2KTKWjTtp>

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