



**I • F • A • L • P • A**

THE GLOBAL VOICE OF PILOTS

## Appendix 3

### H.F. Communications over the South Atlantic Region

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#### SOUTH ATLANTIC H.F. SURVEY: 1-30 SEPTEMBER 2000

1. A further survey with respect to H.F. communication over the South Atlantic Ocean was conducted over the period 1 – 30 September 2000, and once again this illustrated the deficiencies experienced by South African Airways crews operating in this region.
2. Surveys have been conducted previously over the following periods: 1st January 1999 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 1999, 1<sup>st</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> September 1999 and 8<sup>th</sup> February – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2000. The data below is once again consistent with the results obtained during the previous surveys.

### 3 SURVEY RESULTS

The survey gathered information regarding: F.I.R., Station Callsign, Position, Time and Frequency used. The communications quality was then graded on a 0 – 5 scale.

**Note** The information below is rated per transmission received at strength “3” or less verses the total number of transmissions attempted.

<u>FIR</u>	<u>CALLSIGN</u>	<u>QUALITY BELOW STR 3</u> <u>Vs TOTAL CALLS</u>
PIARCO	PIARCO	03 // 03 (100%)
BRASILIA	BRASILIA	12 // 12 (100%)
EZEIZA	EZEIZA	14 // 21 (67%)
RECIFE	RECIFE	00 // 03 (0%)

DAKAR	DAKAR	01 // 04 (25%)
JNB OCEANIC	JNB OCEANIC	09 // 30 (30%)
ABIDJAN	ABIDJAN	01 // 01 (100%) LIMITED DATA
LUANDA	LUANDA	01 // 01 (100%) LIMITED DATA

#### AIRCREW COMMENTS

- (a) Flight SA 209, 6/7-09-2000, Cape Town to Fort Lauderdale.

“Communications in FAJS FIR from 15E to 10W was good on 5565 HF. ZUR (company frequency) was good, and used as a back up. JNB OCA (Johannesburg Oceanic) on 5565 HF was asked to relay forward estimates to Brasilia for their boundary at 10W. At 10W the communication problems started, no comm’s with Brasilia, and JNB OCA / ZUR were asked to relay!

Attempts on 10096, 8855, 8861: Brasilia. No comm’s possible!

Recife perfectly readable On 10096 with SELCALL at 10W. We stayed with Recife throughout the Brasilia FIR.”

- (b) Flight SA 207,16/09/2000, Johannesburg to Sao Paolo.

“As usual comm’s with Jo’burg (Johannesburg) Oceanic good for most of the way, with us reading them strength 3 or 4. Tried all Ezeiza frequencies at the FIR with no response so kept using Jo’burg Oceanic for position reports, whilst still trying Ezeiza. Eventually we established VHF comm’s 124.9 within 200NM of Ezeiza.

On the return flight initial HF comm’s with Ezeiza to position KETIS were fine but we lost them thereafter.

Used Jo’burg Oceanic again for position reports on 5565, strength 5.

Spoke to ZUR fine both ways.”

#### 4. FINDINGS

Once again the gathered data serves to indicate a deficiency in the available HF coverage under the control of stations on the South American continent, in particular with Brasilia, Piarco and Ezeiza.

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