

*The following is my edited report of the incident in Lawton, Oklahoma on September 26, 1970 involving Sally and me. The passenger's name has been changed.*

*-Jake Lamkins*

*(11/4/17)*

At approximately 1655 DALOO called LAWOO and advised us that flight 626 was returning to the gate at DAL with a sick passenger on board and would probably be 15-30 minutes late. At 1710, Larry Thomas (ASSM-DAL) called and spoke to me about this passenger, Jane Doe, informing me that she had told the stewardess, Sally Ambro, as the flight was taxiing out, that she was having a miscarriage.

The flight had returned to the gate. Jane Doe had assured both the SSA and Thomas that she was okay, stressed that she must get to LAW, and told them that someone would meet her here. They decided to put her back on the flight (actually I don't think she actually ever get off the a/c), and the flight was dispatched to LAW. Thomas told me all this and, further, she was acting strangely and I should be prepared for her arrival.

Shortly after this conversation I paged for 'the party meeting Jane Doe' but received no response. (about 1720). Flight 626 terminated in LAW at 1732. I met the flight and saw all the passengers down the airstairs. No one resembling Jane Doe (from Thomas' description) had deplaned so I boarded the flight to check with the stewardess. Ambro advised me then that Jane Doe was in the restroom having a miscarriage. I asked her to see if the passenger was able to deplane. After looking in the restroom, she told us that the embryo was about 50% expelled. Both the Captain (Sampson) and First Officer (Thomas) overheard this; I advised them I was calling an ambulance and told Ambro to keep Jane Doe where she was until the ambulance arrived. About 1740 I phoned Southwestern Memorial Hospital Emergency Room alerting them to the situation and Greenlawn Funeral Home asking for an ambulance as soon as possible. I also notified DENDD at this time of the probable delay on the departure of 627/26, due out at 1745, and I would give them more details later.

I made a P.A. announcement that 627 would be 15 or 20 minutes late and returned to the aircraft. (1745) The stewardess told me that the embryo was completely expelled, but Jane Doe seemed okay. We kept her in the restroom until the ambulance arrived at 1750. The two ambulance attendants wrapped Jane Doe in sheets and a blanket and all three of us removed her from the aircraft on a stretcher. One of the attendants brought up the question of what to do about the embryo, whether to retrieve it or leave it in the lavatory tank? He was not sure, and I certainly did not know what legal or medical complications might ensue if we left it. So I retrieved what appeared to be the embryo and part of the placenta from the commode which the ambulance attendant placed in a plastic bag, covered with a pillowcase, and took with him. The ambulance and passenger left the aircraft at 1755. Ambro and I cleaned the restroom, the passengers were boarded and flight 627 departed LAW at 1800.

Between 1800 and 1830 I spoke to DENDD (George) and DAL) (Thomas) advising them of what had occurred and the situation re Jane Doe. I also called the hospital and was told by an emergency room nurse that Jane Doe appeared to be okay, that it was definitely the embryo we had retrieved, and that Dr. Parsons was caring for the patient. The hospital paged Dr. Parsons for me and I spoke to him for a short time. He informed me that Jane Doe had suffered a partial miscarriage, was not in any apparent danger, and he was preparing her for surgery. He further stated that he was flying out the next morning with FL on flight 601 and would give us more details of the case then. At 2045 the morning SSA, Nelson Parish, was advised to get the necessary info from Dr. Parsons. I checked the hospital again at 1740, but Jane Doe was still in surgery. At 2030 I found that she was in the recovery room and in satisfactory condition.

It should be pointed out that the stewardess, Sally Ambro, conducted herself exceptionally well during the entire episode. She remained cool, poised, effective and very helpful throughout the crisis.