




ASN Wikibase Occurrence # 163055

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Date: 01-OCT-1936
 Time: day
 Type: Airspeed AS.4 Ferry
 Owner/operator: Himalaya Airways Ltd
 Registration: VT-AFO
 C/n / msn: 5
 Fatalities: Fatalities: 0 / Occupants: 0
 Other fatalities: 0
 Aircraft damage: Written off (damaged beyond repair)
 Location: Hardwar, Uttarakhand, 70 miles North of New Dehli -  [India](#)
 Phase: Standing
 Nature: Private
 Departure airport: Hardwar, Uttarakhand, New Dehli, India
 Destination airport:

Narrative:

Airspeed AS.4 Ferry (c/no. 4): Registered as G-ABSJ [C of R 3511] 12.31 to Sir Alan Cobham, London WC2 [but based at York]. C of A 3484 issued 10.6.32. Operated by National Aviation Day Ltd, Ford, West Sussex; named "Youth of Britain III". Renamed "Youth of Africa" 1933. Re-registered [C of R 4780] 27.11.33 to National Aviation Displays Ltd, Ford, West Sussex.

Shipped to India 4.34. Registration cancelled as sold 2.9.34. Re-registered in India as VT-AFO 4.8.34 to Himalaya Air Transport & Survey Ltd, Hardwar, New Delhi; named "Dragoman". Company renamed The Himalaya Airways Ltd [by 12.35]. Aircraft was used to ferry pilgrims from Hardwar to Gaucher. During its service in India the Ferry was flown by K. R. (Keki) Gazder who later became a senior Air-India commander.

Destroyed by fire when burnt by rioters, whilst parked in a hangar at Hardwar, Uttarakhand, 70 miles north of New Delhi, India 1.10.36. Registration cancelled 13.10.36. (Despite reports by some sources - see link #6 - the aircraft was NOT destroyed by being eaten by white ants!)

Sources:

1. <http://www.ab-ix.co.uk/airspeed%20prewar.pdf>
2. <https://publicapps.caa.co.uk/docs/HistoricalMaterial/G-ABSJ.pdf>
3. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airspeed_Ferry
4. http://www.airhistory.org.uk/gy/reg_VT-.html
5. <http://afleetingpeace.org/index.php/aeroplanes/15-aeroplanes/86-register-india>
6. <http://www.mhas.org.uk/200809.pdf>

Revision history:

Date/time	Contributor	Updates
06-Jan-2014 20:08	Dr. John Smith	Added
07-Dec-2017 18:43	Dr. John Smith	Updated [Time, Location, Departure airport, Source, Narrative]
07-Dec-2017 18:51	Dr. John Smith	Updated [Source, Narrative]

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