

Aguenar – Hadj Bey Akhamok Airport (French: Aéroport de Tamanrasset / Aguenar – Hadj Bey Akhamok[3]) (IATA: TMR, ICAO: DAAT), also known as Aguenar Airport or Tamanrasset Airport, is an airport serving Tamanrasset, a city in the Tamanrasset Province of southern Algeria. It is located 3.6 nautical miles (4.1 mi; 6.7 km) northwest of the city.[3]
Contents

- 1 Airlines and destinations
- 2 Military and government use
- 3 Statistics
- 4 Incidents and accidents
- 5 References
- 6 External links

Airlines and destinations[edit]

Airlines Destinations

Air Algérie[7] Algiers, Bordj Badji Mokhtar, El Golea, Ghardaia, Illizi, In Salah, Oran, Ouargla
Tassili Airlines Algiers, In Salah

Military and government use[edit]

The Algerian Air Force is the primary military user of the airport with several units maintaining a presence at the field. In the mid-2000s it was extensively upgraded to serve additionally as a military base, with 10 hardened aircraft shelters, aprons, personnel accommodation and other facilities.[8] The most potent military aircraft based at Tamanrasset are the Sukhoi Su-30MK multi-role fighter aircraft operated by the 123rd Air Defense Squadron which provide fighter coverage for much of southern Algeria from the base. A reconnaissance unit equipped with Beechcraft 1900HISAR and 350ER aircraft specially equipped with surveillance equipment operates from the base along with helicopter detachments operating Mil Mi-171Sh, Mi-24 Mk.III and Mi-26T2 helicopters to support the ground forces in the region.[9]

The airport was an alternative landing site for NASA's Space Shuttle,[citation needed] and has been used for American military operations.[10]

Statistics[edit]

Traffic by calendar year. Official ACI Statistics

Passengers Change from previous year Aircraft operations Change from previous year

Cargo

(metric tons) Change from previous year

2005 57,601 24.58% 2,474 23.99% 151 50.97%

2006 55,826 3.08% 2,729 10.31% 182 20.53%

2007 49,838 10.73% 2,647 3.00% 194 6.59%

2008 59,116 18.62% 2,593 2.04% 151 22.16%

2009 67,770 14.64% 2,496 3.74% 141 6.62%

2010 70,515 4.05% 2,402 3.77% 149 5.67%

Source: Airports Council International. World Airport Traffic Reports

(Years 2005,[11] 2006,[12] 2007,[13] 2009[14] and 2010)

Incidents and accidents[edit]

On 8 February 1978, Douglas C-49J N189UM of Aero Service Corporation was damaged

beyond repair in a landing accident at Tamanrasset.[15]

On 18 September 1994, an Oriental Airlines charter plane returning Nigerian football team Iwuanyanwu Nationale FC home from their CAF Cup quarterfinal football match against Esperance de Tunis crashed while landing at the airport, killing three crew and two passengers, defender Aimola Omale and goalkeeper Uche Ikeogu.[16][17]

On 6 March 2003 Air Algérie Flight 6289 crashed at 3:45 pm local time (1445 GMT). The flight was leaving Tamanrasset bound for Algiers with the co-pilot acting as pilot-in-command. At a height of 78 feet and a speed of 158 kts, the No. 1 engine suffered a turbine failure. The captain took control. The co-pilot asked if she should raise the gear, but the captain did not respond. The Boeing 737-200 lost speed, stalled, and broke up on rocky terrain about 1600 metres past the runway. The accident was caused by the loss of an engine during a critical phase of flight, the non-retraction of the landing gear after the engine failure, and the Captain taking over control of the airplane before having clearly identified the problem. There were 102 fatalities and one survivor.[18]