Boeing Experts Head To Poland To Inspect Plane

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — A team of Boeing experts from the United States are expected in Poland on Wednesday to help authorities with removing from a runway a jetliner that landed on its belly after its landing gear failed to open, officials said.

Heavy fog, meanwhile, grounded planes at several Polish airports even as Warsaw's international airport remained closed following a dramatic emergency landing on Tuesday of a Boeing airliner from the U.S. carrying 231 people.

No one was injured, and the pilot is being hailed a hero in Poland. Aviation experts and fans stressed that Tadeusz Wrona, who is also a glider pilot, carried out a perfect emergency landing, avoiding any mishap.

The plane remains on the tarmac at Warsaw's Frederic Chopin airport at the intersection of its two runways. LOT Polish airlines said Wednesday that efforts were being made to move the plane to unblock one of the runways.

The airline said in a statement that 60 flights were canceled on Wednesday until 1500GMT, but airport officials said the airport would remain closed until early Thursday.

LOT spokesman Andrzej Kozlowski told The Associated Press that a team of Boeing experts from the U.S. were expected Wednesday in Warsaw. They are to consult on the way to remove the plane from the runway and inspect its technical condition.

Meanwhile, flights that were to have been diverted to other airports in Poland are being postponed or canceled due to the fog, a frequent occurrence in November in Poland.

Airports in Krakow, Lodz, Katowice, Gdansk and Poznan have had to cancel or postpone departures and arrivals.

Kozlowski said Capt. Wrona and his co-pilot Jerzy Szwarc, were resting at home.

"They have the right to rest after such an experience," Kozlowski said.

It was not clear if the crew would be attending a news briefing planned by LOT later in the day.

Meanwhile, more than 40,000 fans have expressed their respect and congratulated the pilot, on newly created Facebook fan pages. They called Capt. Wrona Poland's "superhero."

"Fly like an eagle and land like a crow," says a pun coined by the fans. "Wrona" in

Polish means crow.

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