



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	ONEONTA, NY	Accident Number:	NYC84FA110
Date & Time:	03/16/1984, 2330 EST	Registration:	N77777
Aircraft:	LOCKHEED 18-56	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Fatal

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation -

Analysis

AT APRX 2330 EST, WITNESSES NEAR THE CRASH SITE HEARD AN ACFT, & SHORTLY THEREAFTER, THEY SAW A FLASH. ONE OF THEM, WHO WAS DRIVING A CAR, WENT BACK TO THE AREA THE NEXT DAY & FOUND THE ACFT WRECKAGE. THE ACFT HAD CRASHED & BURNED ABOUT 1 MI FROM THE APCH END OF RWY 24. WRECKAGE WAS STREWN ALONG AN AREA OF ABOUT 250 FT LONG & WAS ORIENTED ON A HEADING OF 230 DEG. THE ACFT WAS DESCENDING IN AN ESTIMATE 40 DEG DIVE WHEN IT HIT THE GROUND. AN EXAM OF THE WRECKAGE DID NOT DISCLOSE ANY EVIDENCE OF A MALFUNCTION. ABOUT 3500 LBS OF MARIJUANA WAS FOUND IN THE WRECKAGE. THE 2010 WX AT THE ARPT WAS: INDEFINITE 500 FT OBSCURATION, VISIBILITY 1 1/4 MI WITH RAIN & LIGHT FOG, TEMP 33 DEG, WIND FROM 280 DEG AT 5 KTS. ANOTHER PLT HAD LANDED AT 2015. HE SAID HIS ACFT HAD ACCUMULATED A TRACE OF RIME ICE. AT THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT, WITNESSES SAID THE ROADS WERE LIGHTLY COVERED WITH ICE SNOW.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER

Phase of Operation: APPROACH

Findings

1. (F) JUDGMENT - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. STOLEN AIRCRAFT/UNAUTHORIZED USE - PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) FLIGHT INTO KNOWN ADVERSE WEATHER - PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - NIGHT
5. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - LOW CEILING
6. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - FOG
7. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - OBSCURATION

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: APPROACH

Findings

8. (C) AIRCRAFT HANDLING - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Flight Instructor; Commercial	Age:	48, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	02/08/1984
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	13000 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	LOCKHEED	Registration:	N77777
Model/Series:	18-56 18-56	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	22500
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tailwheel	Seats:	8
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	22500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	0 Hours	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	WRIGHT
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	GR-1820
Registered Owner:	HOLIDAY TOURS, INC.	Rated Power:	1000 hp
Operator:	HOLIDAY TOURS, INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	BGM, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	2330 EST	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 500 ft agl	Visibility	1 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Obscured / 500 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	21 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	5°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-15°C / -3°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0000	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	ONEONTA (N66)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1765 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	24	IFR Approach:	
Runway Length/Width:	3400 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	On-Ground
Total Injuries:	2 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	DENNIS L JONES	Report Date:	
Additional Participating Persons:	WARD SHANDOFF; ALBANY, NY		
Publish Date:			
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).