

National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location: LINCOLN, NM Accident Number: DEN90FA030

Date & Time: 12/02/1989, 1435 MST Registration: N9PU

Aircraft: BEECH F-90 Aircraft Damage: Destroyed

Defining Event: Injuries: 2 Fatal

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Personal

Analysis

WITNESSES HEARD THE AIRPLANE CIRCLING IN THE VICINITY OF THE NDB. OTHER WITNESSES SAW THE AIRPLANE EXIT THE CLOUD BASE IN A NEAR-VERTICAL DIVE AND IMPACT THE GROUND APRX 1 MILE EAST AND 1/2 MILE NORTH OF THE NDB.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: LOSS OF CONTROL DUE TO PILOT DISORIENTATION WHILE CONDUCTING A NON PRECISION INSTRUMENT APPROACH. CONTRIBUTING TO THE ACCIDENT WAS THE PILOT'S LACK OF INSTRUMENT AND MULTIENGINE EXPERIENCE, AND THE EXISTING ADVERSE WEATHER.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: APPROACH - IAF TO FAF/OUTER MARKER (IFR)

Findings

- 1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION LOW CEILING
- 2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION OBSCURATION
- 3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION SNOW
- 4. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL NOT MAINTAINED PILOT IN COMMAND
- 5. (C) SPATIAL DISORIENTATION PILOT IN COMMAND
- 6. (F) LACK OF TOTAL INSTRUMENT TIME PILOT IN COMMAND
- 7. (F) LACK OF TOTAL EXPERIENCE IN TYPE OF AIRCRAFT PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	52, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medicalw/waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	06/28/1989
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	569 hours (Total, all aircraft), 92 hours (Total, this make and model), 305 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BEECH	Registration:	N9PU
Model/Series:	F-90 F-90	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	LA57
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	10
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	07/21/1989, 100 Hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	8800 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	153 Hours	Engines:	2 Turbo Prop
Airframe Total Time:	921 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	P&W
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	PT6A-135
Registered Owner:	R.F.W., INC.	Rated Power:	750 hp
Operator:	R.F.W., INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Page 2 of 4 DEN90FA030

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	SRR, 6805 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	7 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1454 MST	Direction from Accident Site:	255°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	0 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Obscured / 800 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	Calm /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-2°C / -3°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	CARLSBAD, CA (CRQ)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	RUIDOSO, NM (SRR)	Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	1117 PST	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Airport Information

Airport:	SIERRA BIANCA REGIONAL (SRR)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	6810 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Wet
Runway Used:	24	IFR Approach:	ADF/NDB
Runway Length/Width:	8100 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	On-Ground
Total Injuries:	2 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	NORMAN F WIEMEYER	Report Date:	09/30/1991
Additional Participating Persons:	SANDARS; ALBUQUERQUE, NM REDMOND; MONTREAL, CD WARD; WICHITA, KS		
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 publing@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.ntsb.gov/pubdms/ .		

Page 3 of 4 DEN90FA030

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.

Page 4 of 4 DEN90FA030