

No. 33

Aeronaves de Mexico, S. A., Constellation 749-A, XA-MEV, accident west of the Guadalajara City Airport, Mexico, on 2 June 1958. Findings of the Accident Investigation and Reporting Commission as submitted to the Director General of Civil Aviation, Mexico.

Circumstances

The aircraft took off from Guadalajara Airport on a scheduled flight to Mexico City, carrying 38 passengers and a crew of 7. It did not follow the established climb-out procedure and crashed at approximately 2206 hours local time against La Latilla mountain, approximately 13 kms from the radio beacon west of Guadalajara Airport, killing all persons aboard.

Investigation and Evidence

The aircraft's Certificate of Airworthiness was valid at the time of the accident. The captain and co-pilot both held valid Airline Transport Pilot licences.

At take-off time the weather conditions were adequate for air navigation.

The initial cause of the accident can mainly be traced to the following manoeuvres performed by the aircraft during the take-off and climb-out stages.

XA-MEV made a routine take-off from runway 28 according to the traffic pattern. A turn to the left was made as though to perform the procedural "drop-shaped" turn prescribed by the Airports Manual for climb-out on instruments. Instead of completing the procedural turn, the pilot continued on a straight course for about two minutes in a south-westerly direction. Then, on making a right turn the aircraft crashed on the mountain peak.

Probable Cause

The aircraft did not climb out in accordance with previously approved procedures - the provisions of which are set out in the Airports Manual.

- - - - -