

Bureau of Aircraft Accidents Archives

CRASH OF A DOUGLAS C-47A-1-DK IN LOURDES-DE-BLANC-SABLON

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Date & Time: Mar 16, 1965 at 1730 LT

Type of aircraft: Douglas C-47 Skytrain (DC-3)

Operator: Canadian Government

Registration: CF-PQG

Flight Phase: Takeoff (climb)

Flight Type: Government

Survivors: Yes

Site: Airport (less than 10 km from airport)

MSN: 12055

YOM: 1943

Location: Lourdes-de-Blanc-Sablon, Quebec

Country: Canada

Region: North America

Crew on board: 3

Crew fatalities: 0

Pax on board: 6

Pax fatalities: 0

Other fatalities: 0

Total fatalities: 0

Circumstances:

During the takeoff roll, the visibility decreased because of the glare of the landing lights on the falling snow. The aircraft deviated 10° or 15° to the left without the crew being aware that this deviation had occurred and, after rolling for about 750 ft, it left the north side of the runway.

The attempt to take off was continued. However, adequate speed could not be obtained. After a series of impacts, the aircraft came to rest about 3,150 feet from the start of takeoff and about 700 feet short of the base of a sharply rising hill. All 9 occupants were uninjured while the aircraft was damaged beyond repair. It was operated on behalf of the Département des Transports et des Communications du Québec.

Causes:

Loss of directional control during takeoff at night from an unlighted aerodrome.