



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	NORTH ADAMS, MA	Accident Number:	NYC83FA078
Date & Time:	03/18/1983, 1155 EST	Registration:	N473MA
Aircraft:	MITSUBISHI MU-2B-60	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Fatal

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Executive/Corporate

Analysis

AT 1145 THE PLT REPORTED VFR CONDITIONS & REQUESTED RADAR VECTORS TO THE ARPT. HE WAS ISSUED A CRUISE CLEARANCE OF 5,000 FT & GIVEN A HEADING. 18 MI FROM THE ARPT HE REPORTED VISUAL CONTACT WITH THE GROUND. AT 1151 HE WAS ASKED IF HE WAS FAMILIAR WITH THE AREA TO WHICH HE RESPONDED NEGATIVE. HE WAS THEN ADVISED OF RISING TERRAIN IN ALL QUADRANTS, INCLUDING A MOUNTAIN '...TO ALMOST 3700 FEET, 3 MILES SOUTH OF THE AIRPORT.' AT 1154 THE PLT WAS ADVISED THAT THE ARPT WAS LESS THAN A MILE AT 12 O'CLOCK. THE ACFT IMPACTED A MOUNTAIN 2 MI SOUTH OF THE ARPT AT ABOUT 2,700 FT MSL. A WITNESS DESCRIBED THE SKY CONDITIONS AS A LOW CEILING WITH CLOUDS OBSCURING THE MOUNTAIN PEAKS. THE ARPT IS UNCONTROLLED & HAS NO PUBLISHED INSTRUMENT APPROACH PROCEDURE.

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: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (F) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) PREFLIGHT BRIEFING SERVICE - NOT OBTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - LOW CEILING
4. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - ATTEMPTED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

5. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - MOUNTAINOUS/HILLY
6. (F) LACK OF FAMILIARITY WITH GEOGRAPHIC AREA - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport	Age:	42, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Multi-engine	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	02/28/1983
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	11450 hours (Total, all aircraft), 9900 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	MITSUBISHI	Registration:	N473MA
Model/Series:	MU-2B-60 MU-2B-60	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	1547 SA
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	9
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	01/05/1983, AAIP	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	11625 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	0 Hours	Engines:	2 Turbo Prop
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	AIRESEARCH
ELT:	Installed, activated	Engine Model/Series:	TPE-331-10
Registered Owner:	AIRCRAFT MARKETING INTL., INC.	Rated Power:	940 hp
Operator:	PETROQUIMICA DOMINICANA CXA	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	ALB, 285 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	28 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1150 EST	Direction from Accident Site:	110°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 2300 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 3000 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	11 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	170°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	10° C / 4° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	TETERBORO, NJ (TEB)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	NORTH ADAMS, MA (2B6)	Type of Clearance:	Cruise
Departure Time:	1112 EST	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	HARRIMAN-WEST (2B6)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	654 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4300 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	DENNIS L JONES	Report Date:	
Additional Participating Persons:			
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/ .		

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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](#).