



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	CLINES CORNERS, NM	Accident Number:	FTW84FA047
Date & Time:	11/08/1983, 2018 MST	Registration:	N4116B
Aircraft:	AERO COMMANDER 520	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Fatal

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Ferry

Analysis

THE NON-INSTRUMENT RATED PLT WAS ON FERRY FLT FROM BARTLESVILLE, OK TO ONTARIO, CA. AN EN ROUTE STOP WAS MADE AT TUCUMCARI, NM, WHERE THE ACFT WAS REFUELED & 14 QTS OF OIL WAS ADDED TO THE LEFT ENG. THE LINE BOY WHO SERVICED THE ACFT SAW NO VISIBLE OIL LEAKS OR SPILLAGE AROUND THE ENG. WHILE ON THE NEXT LEG OF THE FLT, THE ACFT CRASHED NEAR INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 40. TWO WITNESSES THAT SAW THE CRASH STATED RAIN WAS FALLING, THE WIND WAS BLOWING VERY STRONG & THERE WERE LOW CEILINGS. REPORTEDLY, A SQUALL LINE WAS MOVING THRU THE AREA & THERE WAS MODERATE TO SEVERE TURBULENCE. AN EXAM OF THE WRECKAGE REVEALED THE ACFT HAD CRASHED IN A STEEP NOSE DOWN ATTITUDE, WITH 20 TO 30 DEG LEFT BANK & AT HIGH SPEED. NO PREIMPACT, MECHANICAL FAILURES WERE FOUND & BOTH ENGS HAD EVIDENCE THAT THEY WERE OPERATING DURING IMPACT. THE WX BRIEFER SAID THE PLT INDICATED HE WOULD FLY AROUND THE AREA OF PRECIPITATION & REMAIN VFR. RADAR INFO SHOWED THE PLT HAD BEEN FOLLOWING THE INTERSTATE HIGHWAY & VARYING HIS ALT BETWEEN 7900 & 6300 FT MSL.

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: CRUISE - NORMAL

Findings

1. (F) FLIGHT INTO KNOWN ADVERSE WEATHER - INITIATED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT
3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - LOW CEILING
4. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - HIGH WIND
5. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - RAIN
6. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - CONTINUED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

7. (C) AIRCRAFT HANDLING - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
8. (C) SPATIAL DISORIENTATION - PILOT IN COMMAND
9. (F) LACK OF TOTAL INSTRUMENT TIME - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	37, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	12/07/1981
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	625 hours (Total, all aircraft), 95 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	AERO COMMANDER	Registration:	N4116B
Model/Series:	520 520	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Special Flight	Serial Number:	520-20
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	7
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	5500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	GO-435-C2B
Registered Owner:	RAYMOND M. TOLLES	Rated Power:	260 hp
Operator:	RAYMOND M. TOLLES	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	TCC, 4064 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	91 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1955 MST	Direction from Accident Site:	55°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	0 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	/ 3°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	TUCUMCARI, NM (TCC)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	TUCSON, AZ (TUS)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1902 MST	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	WARREN V WANDEL	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 pubinquiry@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](#).