



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	ELDRED ROCK, AK	Accident Number:	ANC87FA165
Date & Time:	09/20/1987, 1705 AKD	Registration:	CGPAC
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-31-310	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	5 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 129: Foreign		

Analysis

THE FLT WAS CLRD ON AN IFR FLT FM WHITEHORSE TO JUNEAU, VIA V-428 TO CHILL INTXN, THEN DRCT TO JUNEAU. CHILL INTXN WAS LOCATED ON V-428, 36 MI SOUTH OF HAINES NDB ON A BEARING OF 146 DEG. ON REACHING HAINES NDB, THE PLT CANCELLED HIS IFR CLNC & CONTD UNDER VISUAL FLT RULES (VFR). SUBSEQUENTLY, THE ACFT CRASHED ON A GLACIER BETWEEN HAINES & JUNEAU, APRX 15 MI SE OF HAINES NDB AT AN ELEV OF ABOUT 4500'. A PLT, FLYING ABOUT 5 MI SW OF THE CRASH SITE AT THE TIME OF THE ACDNT, RPRTD A BKN TO OVC CEILING AT 2500' TO 3000' MSL. THE ACDNT SITE WAS NEAR THE HAINES TRANSITION OF THE BARLO 4 DEPARTURE (SID). IN THAT AREA, THE MIN EN ROUTE ALT FOR FLT ON THE HAINES TRANSITION WAS 9000' UNDER INSTRUMENT FLT RULES.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - CLOUDS
2. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) PROCEDURES/DIRECTIVES - NOT FOLLOWED - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - SNOW COVERED
5. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - MOUNTAINOUS/HILLY
6. (C) PROPER ALTITUDE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Foreign	Age:	26, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	04/02/1987
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1400 hours (Total, all aircraft), 50 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	CGPAC
Model/Series:	PA-31-310 PA-31-310	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	31-759
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	9
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	09/17/1987, Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	6500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	7530 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	TIO-540-A2B
Registered Owner:	AIR NORTH CHARTER & TRAINING	Rated Power:	310 hp
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Flag carrier (121)
Operator Does Business As:	AIR NORTH	Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	Z26, 16 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	20 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	2340 UTC	Direction from Accident Site:	306°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	0 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	11 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	170°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	11° C / 7° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	WHITEHORSE, CD (YXY)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Unknown
Destination:	JUNEAU, AK (JNU)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	1636 PDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	4 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	5 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	GEORGE KOBELNYK	Report Date:	01/25/1989
Additional Participating Persons:	DON ABBOTT; EDMONTON, OF		
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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