



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	CRYSTAL BAY, NV	Accident Number:	SEA87FA141
Date & Time:	07/17/1987, 1930 PDT	Registration:	N1870S
Aircraft:	BEECH B200	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	4 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

WHILE ON AN INSTRUMENT FLIGHT PLAN IN IMC, THE FLIGHT WAS CLEARED FOR AN INSTRUMENT APPROACH TO THE SOUTH LAKE TAHOE AIRPORT, THE INTENDED DESTINATION. THE AIRCRAFT DEPARTED THE INITIAL APPROACH FIX ON THE PUBLISHED TRANSITION TO THE FINAL APPROACH COURSE. RADAR CONTACT WAS LOST AT 11,400 FEET. AFTERWARD, THE ACFT WAS OBSERVED DESCENDING OUT OF CLOUDS AND MANUEVERING ERRATICALLY IN VMC UNTIL IT IMPACTED TERRAIN WITH NO APPARENT ATTEMPT TO RECOVER. MEDICAL RECORDS REVEALED PILOT HAD A HISTORY OF HYPERTENSION, HYPERLIPIDEMIA, AND RECENT LOSS OF 41 POUNDS ON A RIGID WEIGHT LOSS PROGRAM. THE AUTOPSY REVEALED SEVERE ARTERIOSCLOROSIS. MEDICAL RECORDS INDICATED THE PILOT HAD BEEN TAKING DIAZIDE INTERMITTENTLY FOR SEVERAL YEARS. POST-ACCIDENT TOX RESULTS WERE NEGATIVE. THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE ACCIDENT, IN COMBINATION WITH THE PILOT'S SEVERE DIET, MEDICAL HISTORY, AND POSTMORTEM EXAMINATION RESULTS SUPPORT THE CONCLUSION THAT THE PILOT BECAME INCAPACITATED IN FLIGHT.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: APPROACH - IAF TO FAF/OUTER MARKER (IFR)

Findings

1. (C) INCAPACITATION(OTHER CARDIOVASCULAR) - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	54, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	01/10/1987
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	3995 hours (Total, all aircraft), 381 hours (Total, this make and model), 3995 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 15 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BEECH	Registration:	N1870S
Model/Series:	B200 B200	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	BB1106
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	11
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	07/14/1987, Continuous Airworthiness	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	12500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	1 Hours	Engines:	2 Turbo Prop
Airframe Total Time:	478 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	P&W
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	PT6A-42
Registered Owner:	SKYWATER LODGE	Rated Power:	850 hp
Operator:	RICHARD P. LIEBERMAN	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	3SW, 6264 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	20 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1942 PDT	Direction from Accident Site:	155°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	30 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 3200 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	160°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	6° C / -2° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	HAYWARD, CA (HWD)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	S. LAKE TAHOE, CA (3SW)	Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	1844 PDT	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Airport Information

Airport:	SOUTH LAKE TAHOE (TVL)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	6264 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	18	IFR Approach:	LDA
Runway Length/Width:	8544 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	3 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	On-Ground
Total Injuries:	4 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	PRENTISS E MANGUM	Report Date:	05/19/1989
Additional Participating Persons:	TOM F HOWELL; RENO, NV MIKE MCCLURE; WICHITA, KS ROGER STALLKAMP; PIQUA, OH JAMES JENSEN; LOS ALTOS, CA		
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](#).