



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	SAN DIEGO, CA	Accident Number:	LAX87FA350
Date & Time:	09/30/1987, 0759 PDT	Registration:	XAKOA
Aircraft:	CESSNA 340A	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	6 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Non-U.S., Commercial		

Analysis

AT APRX 0600, THE ACFT DEPD GUERRERO NEGRO, MEXICO ON AN AIR TAXI FLT TO TIJUANA, MEXICO. AT 0715, THE TIJUANA WX WAS RPRTD AS PARTIALLY OBSCURED, VIS 1 MI WITH FOG, HAZE & SMOKE, WIND CALM. DRG ARRIVAL, THE PLT WAS CLRD FOR AN ILS RWY 9 APCH & RPRTD OVER THE FINAL APCH FIX. HOWEVER, THE ACFT CRASHED AT ABOUT 0759, BFR REACHING THE MIDDLE MARKER, WHICH WAS 1/2 MI FROM THE APCH END OF RWY 9. IMPACT WAS ON A RIDGE ABOUT 110 FT BELOW THE ARPT ELEVATION & APRX 100 YDS NORTH OF THE INTERNATIONAL BORDER. THE ACFT WAS FND A SHORT TIME LATER BY U.S. BORDER PATROL PSNL. NO PREIMPACT PART FAILURE OR MALFUNCTION WAS FND. THE 0800 WX AT TIJUANA WAS IN PART: SKY PARTIALLY OBSCURED, VIS 1/10 MI WITH FOG & HAZE, WIND 210 DEG AT 4 KTS. ABT 1 MI NORTH AT BROWN FIELD, THE WX WAS IN PART: SKY PARTIALLY OBSCURED, VIS 3/4 MI WITH FOG & HAZE, WIND 280 DEG AT 4 KTS. A TOXICOLOGY CHECK OF THE PLT'S BLOOD SHOWED AN ALCOHOL LVL OF 0.07%. CALCULATIONS SHOWED THE SUN WOULD HAVE BEEN 16 DEG ABV THE HORIZON ON A MAGNETIC AZIMUTH OF 89.8 DEG.

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: APPROACH - FAF/OUTER MARKER TO THRESHOLD (IFR)

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - LOW CEILING
2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - FOG
3. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - SUNGLARE
4. (F) VISUAL/AURAL PERCEPTION - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (C) IFR PROCEDURE - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
6. (C) PROPER ALTITUDE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
7. (F) IMPAIRMENT(ALCOHOL) - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	24, 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:	Unknown Unknown	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	2525 hours (Total, all aircraft), 100 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	XAKOA
Model/Series:	340A 340A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	340A0978
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	5990 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	TSIO-520-NB
Registered Owner:	AERO SERVICIO DE SONORA	Rated Power:	310 hp
Operator:	AERO SERVICIO DE SONORA	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand Air Taxi (135)
Operator Does Business As:	AERO SERVICIO DE SONORA	Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	SDM, 524 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0800 PDT	Direction from Accident Site:	360°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Partial Obscuration / 0 ft agl	Visibility	0 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	4 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	260°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	18° C / 17° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	GUERRERO NEGRO, MX	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	TIJUANA, MEXICO, OF	Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	0600 PDT	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	GEN RODRIGUEZ INTL (MMTJ)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	499 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	9	IFR Approach:	ILS
Runway Length/Width:	8202 ft / 144 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	5 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	6 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	JAMES A WALL	Report Date:	08/08/1989
Additional Participating Persons:	WILLIAM S ROSS; WICHITA, KS MICHAEL J GRIMES; MOBILE, AL LARRY STEWART; SAN DIEGO, CA		
Publish Date:			
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident docket 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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