



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	BOIS D'ARC, MO	<b>Accident Number:</b>	MKC90FA082
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	04/13/1990, 2044 CDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N6KG
<b>Aircraft:</b>	PIPER PA-31-350	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

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## Analysis

THE INSTRUMENT-RATED PLT DEPARTED SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI AT NIGHT ON A VFR FLT TO MT VERNON, MISSOURI. AFTER TAKING OFF FROM RWY 20, A RIGHT TURN WAS MADE FOR A CLIMB TO 3000 FT. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, TOWER PERSONNEL LOST RADAR CONTACT WITH THE ACFT & NOTIFIED THE FAA RGNL OPN CENTER. THE ACFT CRASHED ABOUT 7 MI SW OF THE ARPT. A WITNESS RPRTD SEEING AN ACFT DSCND OUT OF LOW CLOUDS IN THE AREA, BUT DID NOT SEE THE ACTUAL CRASH. AN INVESTIGATION REVEALED THE ACFT CRASHED ON AN EASTERLY HEADING, WHILE AT A HIGH RATE OF SPEED. IMPACT OCCURRED IN A LEFT WING DOWN, NOSE LOW ATTITUDE. NO PREIMPACT PART FAILURE OR MALFUNCTION OF THE ACFT WAS FOUND. ALSO, NO RECORD OF A PREFLIGHT WX BRIEFING WAS FND.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: INADVERTENT FLIGHT BY THE PILOT INTO INSTRUMENT METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS (IMC), AND HIS SPATIAL DISORIENTATION, WHICH RESULTED IN LOSS OF AIRCRAFT CONTROL. FACTORS RELATED TO THE ACCIDENT WERE: THE PILOT'S INADEQUATE WEATHER EVALUATION, DARKNESS, LOW CEILING, AND FOG.

## Findings

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Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

### Findings

1. (F) WEATHER EVALUATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT
3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - LOW CEILING
4. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - FOG
5. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

### Findings

6. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
7. (C) SPATIAL DISORIENTATION - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	57, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Seatbelt
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	Yes
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	02/20/1989
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	2200 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	PIPER	<b>Registration:</b>	N6KG
<b>Model/Series:</b>	PA-31-350 PA-31-350	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	No
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	31-7952215
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Retractable - Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	10
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	08/31/1989, Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	7000 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	48 Hours	<b>Engines:</b>	2 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	2737 Hours	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	LYCOMING
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	TIO-540-J2BD
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	MOUNT VERNON FIREPLACES, INC.	<b>Rated Power:</b>	350 hp
<b>Operator:</b>	MOUNT VERNON FIREPLACES, INC.	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	SGF, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	2050 CDT	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	6 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 2300 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	220°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	11° C / 11° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	SPRINGFIELD, MO (SGF)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	MT VERNON, MO (MO20)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	2039 CDT	Type of Airspace:	Class E

## Airport Information

Airport:	SPRINGFIELD RGNL (SGF)	Runway Surface Type:	Concrete
Airport Elevation:	1267 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Wet
Runway Used:	20	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	7003 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

## Wreckage and Impact Information

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

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	CLINT C THORPE	Report Date:	09/05/1991
Additional Participating Persons:	JOE CHADWICK; VERO BEACH, FL GREG ERIKSON FRED BEEMON; WICHITA, KS DEEPAK JOSHI; WASHINGTON, DC		
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 <a href="mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> .		

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