



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| Location: | MISSING ACFT, Bahamas | Accident Number: | MIA83LA025 |
| Date & Time: | 11/05/1982, 1654 EST | Registration: | N1HQ |
| Aircraft: | BEECH 65-B80 | Aircraft Damage: | Destroyed |
| Defining Event: | | Injuries: | 3 Fatal |
| Flight Conducted Under: | Part 91: General Aviation - Personal | | |

Analysis

THE FLT DEPARTED FT. LAUDERDALE AT 1626, & AT 1654 IN THE VICINITY OF BIMINI WAS ADVISED TO CONTACT NASSAU RADIO. THE FLT FAILED TO CONTACT NASSAU & THERE WERE NO FURTHER COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE FLT. SEARCH EFFORTS PRODUCED NEGATIVE RESULTS. IMC PREVAILED ON THE PROPOSED ROUTE OF FLT. RADAR DEPICTIONS SHOWED THE MOST SEVERE WEATHER TO BE BETWEEN MIAMI, FL & BIMINI. SIGMET 7 ISSUED AT 1455 SHOWED AN AREA OF EMBEDDED THUNDERSTORMS EXTENDING TO A POINT 100 MI E OF MIAMI WITH TOPS TO 40,000 FT THAT WAS MOVING NE AT 15K. ACFT DAMAGE & INJURIES ARE PRESUMED.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: MISSING AIRCRAFT
Phase of Operation: UNKNOWN

Findings

1. (C) REASON FOR OCCURRENCE UNDETERMINED
2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - THUNDERSTORM

Factual Information

Pilot Information

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| Certificate: | Commercial | Age: | 31, Male |
| Airplane Rating(s): | Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land | Seat Occupied: | Unknown |
| Other Aircraft Rating(s): | | Restraint Used: | |
| Instrument Rating(s): | None | Second Pilot Present: | |
| Instructor Rating(s): | None | Toxicology Performed: | |
| Medical Certification: | Class 1 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim. | Last FAA Medical Exam: | 05/17/1982 |
| Occupational Pilot: | | Last Flight Review or Equivalent: | |
| Flight Time: | 1395 hours (Total, all aircraft) | | |

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

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|--------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aircraft Make: | BEECH | Registration: | N1HQ |
| Model/Series: | 65-B80 65-B80 | Aircraft Category: | Airplane |
| Year of Manufacture: | | Amateur Built: | No |
| Airworthiness Certificate: | | Serial Number: | LD-275 |
| Landing Gear Type: | Retractable - Tricycle | Seats: | 8 |
| Date/Type of Last Inspection: | Unknown | Certified Max Gross Wt.: | 8800 lbs |
| Time Since Last Inspection: | 0 Hours | Engines: | 2 Reciprocating |
| Airframe Total Time: | | Engine Manufacturer: | LYCOMING |
| ELT: | Installed | Engine Model/Series: | IGSO-540 |
| Registered Owner: | L. F. VANSTONE, JR. | Rated Power: | 380 hp |
| Operator: | JAMES VALENTINE | Operating Certificate(s) Held: | |

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

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|----------------------------------|---------------------|---|------------------|
| Conditions at Accident Site: | Unknown | Condition of Light: | Not Reported |
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | , 0 ft msl | Distance from Accident Site: | 0 Nautical Miles |
| Observation Time: | 0000 | Direction from Accident Site: | 0° |
| 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: | | Temperature/Dew Point: | / 0° C |
| Precipitation and Obscuration: | | | |
| Departure Point: | FT. LAUDERDALE, FL | Type of Flight Plan Filed: | IFR |
| Destination: | ELEUTHERA ISLAN, BH | Type of Clearance: | None |
| Departure Time: | 1626 | Type of Airspace: | |

Wreckage and Impact Information

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|---------------------|---------|----------------------|-----------|
| Crew Injuries: | 2 Fatal | Aircraft Damage: | Destroyed |
| Passenger Injuries: | 1 Fatal | Aircraft Fire: | Unknown |
| Ground Injuries: | N/A | Aircraft Explosion: | Unknown |
| Total Injuries: | 3 Fatal | Latitude, Longitude: | |

Administrative Information

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|-----------------------------------|--|------------|
| Investigator In Charge (IIC): | Report Date: | 11/05/1983 |
| 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/ . | |

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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](#).