



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	SELAWIK, AK	Accident Number:	ANC83FA068
Date & Time:	04/07/1983, 1456 PST	Registration:	N37MN
Aircraft:	Britten-Norman BN-2A-8	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Fatal, 1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Business		

Analysis

ACCORDING TO THE FAA SPECIALIST ON DUTY AT THE NOME FLIGHT SERVICE STATION THE PLT OF MUNZ NORTHERN FLT 601 REQUESTED ONLY THE AMBLER WX AT 0030 GMT. THE ONLY SURVIVING PASSENGER STATED THAT THE FLT DEPTD NOME, AK AT 1330 BST AND AS THE FLT CONTINUED NORTH SHE COULD ONLY SEE STRAIGHT DOWN AND WAS NERVOUS BECAUSE THE GROUND WAS SO CLOSE. SHE FURTHER STATED THAT THE PROPS CHANGED THEIR SOUND WHICH RELATED TO THE SOUND THEY MADE EARLIER IN THE FLIGHT WHEN THE ACFT CLIMBED TO CLEAR A MOUNTAIN. SHE ALSO ADDED THAT THEY WERE IN WHITEOUT CONDITIONS PRIOR TO IMPACT AND THERE WERE NO MECHANICAL IRREGULARITIES THAT WHE WAS AWARE OF.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER

Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER FORECAST - NOT OBTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - WHITEOUT
3. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - SNOW
5. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - CONTINUED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: CLIMB

Findings

6. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - HIGH TERRAIN

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Commercial	Age:	55, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Multi-engine Sea; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	10/14/1982
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	11054 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1598 hours (Total, this make and model), 7900 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 94 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Britten-Norman	Registration:	N37MN
Model/Series:	BN-2A-8 BN-2A-8	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	558
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	04/01/1983, AAIP	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	6200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	18 Hours	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	6674 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-540-E4C5
Registered Owner:	MUNZ NORTHERN AIRLINES, INC.	Rated Power:	235 hp
Operator:	MUNZ NORTHERN AIRLINES, INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Commuter Air Carrier (135)

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	Z60, 289 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	76 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	2349 GMT	Direction from Accident Site:	193°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	7 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Obscured / 1400 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	6 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	90°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-1° C / -2° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	NOME, AK (OME)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	AMBLER, AK (Z60)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1338 PST	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal, 1 Serious	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Fatal, 1 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	GEORGE KOBELNYK	Report Date:	
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](#).