



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	CROOKED CREEK, AK	Accident Number:	ANC87FA117
Date & Time:	08/08/1987, 0930 AKD	Registration:	N7371U
Aircraft:	CESSNA 207	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Fatal

Flight Conducted Under: Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Scheduled

Analysis

THE ACFT OVERFLEW THE DESTINATION DUE TO FOG. THE STATION MANAGER STATED THAT AFTER TRANSMITTING TO THE PLT THAT THE WX WAS 'ZERO ZERO', THE PLT STATED THAT HE WOULD CONTINUE ON TO RED DEVIL AND SHE HEARD IT FLY OVERHEAD. THE FIRST PIECES OF ACFT DEBRIS WERE FOUND 9 MILES SOUTH OF CROOKED CREEK ALONG THE WESTERN SHORE OF THE KUSKOKWIN RIVER AT A POINT WHERE IT WIDENED AND THE SURFACE OF THE WATER SMOOTHED OUT. NO IMPACT MARKS WERE FOUND ALONG EITHER SHORE OF THE RIVER. OTHER PLTS IN THE AREA STATED THAT THE FOG WAS DOWN TO THE GROUND AND EXTENDED APPROX 12 MILES SOUTH OF CROOKED CREEK. THE ENGINE, PLT'S SEAT, AND ACFT WERE NOT RECOVERED.

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: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - FOG
2. (C) ALTITUDE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) JUDGMENT - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

5. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - WATER

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	41, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	06/19/1987
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1467 hours (Total, all aircraft), 167 hours (Total, this make and model), 1096 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 146 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N7371U
Model/Series:	207 207	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal; Utility	Serial Number:	20700402
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	8
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	07/25/1987, AAIP	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3600 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	10015 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520-470
Registered Owner:	HERMANS AIR, INC	Rated Power:	300 hp
Operator:	HERMANS AIR INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Commuter Air Carrier (135)

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
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:	Overcast / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	Calm /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	12° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	CHUATHBALUK, AK	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	CROOKED CREEK, AK (CJX)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0850 ADT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	CROOKED CREEK	Runway Surface Type:	Gravel
Airport Elevation:	90 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	

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):	GEORGE KOBELNYK	Report Date:	10/06/1988
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 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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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](#).