



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	KENAI, AK	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ANC87FA023
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	01/14/1987, 1315 AST	<b>Registration:</b>	N9395M
<b>Aircraft:</b>	CESSNA 207A	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal, 4 Serious, 2 Minor

**Flight Conducted Under:** Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled

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## Analysis

WX CONDS ON THE DAY OF THE ACDNT WERE RPRTD TO BE EXTREMELY VARIABLE. INITIALLY, WHEN THE PLT OBTAINED A WX BRIEFING, VFR FLT WAS NOT RCMDD. LATER, THE WX IMPROVED & THE PLT ELECTED TO PROCEED ON THE FLT. WHILE EN ROUTE, HE ENCTRD SNOW SHOWERS & DSCNDD TO 500' AGL TO INSURE BEST VISIBILITY. THE PLT STATED THAT WITHOUT WARNING, HE ENCTRD A SNOW SQUALL & WHITE-OUT CONDS WHILE HE WAS FLYING OVER A RIDGE IMMEDIATELY WEST OF THE KUSTATAN RIVER. HE ATTEMPTED A 180 TURN, BUT THE ACFT CRASHED ON SNOW COVERED TERRAIN. ONE OCCUPANT, AN INFANT, DIED FROM IMPACT INJURIES. THE SURVIVORS WERE LOCATED ABOUT 21 HRS AFTER THE ACDNT. THE ELT SW WAS FND IN THE 'OFF' PSN; NO ELT SIGNAL WAS HEARD BY OTHER PLTS. ANOTHER PLT WHO ENCTRD WX AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME & PLACE DIVERTED TO ANOTHER ARPT.

## Probable Cause and Findings

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

## Findings

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Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER  
Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

### Findings

1. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - SNOW COVERED
2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - SNOW
3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - WHITEOUT
4. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - CONTINUED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	22, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	Airplane Single-engine	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	04/07/1986
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	1443 hours (Total, all aircraft), 61 hours (Total, this make and model), 1299 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 42 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	CESSNA	<b>Registration:</b>	N9395M
<b>Model/Series:</b>	207A 207A	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	No
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	20700685
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	6
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	12/13/1986, 100 Hour	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	3800 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	45 Hours	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	4470 Hours	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	CONTINENTAL
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	IO-520-F
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	MICHAEL J. OSOLNIK	<b>Rated Power:</b>	300 hp
<b>Operator:</b>		<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	On-demand Air Taxi (135)
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>	BIRCHWOOD AIR SERVICE	<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	

## 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:	1304	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Partial Obscuration / 0 ft agl	Visibility	0 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 400 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	Variable	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	-7° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	ANCHORAGE, AK (MRI)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	NONDALTON, AK (5NN)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1228 AST	Type of Airspace:	Class G

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal, 4 Serious, 1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Fatal, 4 Serious, 2 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	MARC STELLA	Report Date:	02/24/1989
Additional Participating Persons:	BETTY ROGERS		
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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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](#).