

# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location: CHANTILLY, VA Accident Number: BF088FA067

Date & Time: 07/20/1988, 1608 EDT Registration: N7267

Aircraft: de Havilland DHC-6-200 Aircraft Damage: Destroyed

Defining Event: Injuries: 1 Fatal

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Ferry

### **Analysis**

THIS WAS THE FIRST FLIGHT AFTER A MAINTENANCE INSPECTION. THE FLAPS WERE LEFT FULL DOWN AFTER A POST-INSPECTION BY COMPANY MECHANICS, BEFORE THE FLIGHT. WITNESSES STATED THE FLAPS WERE DOWN WHEN THE AIRCRAFT TAXIED TO TAKEOFF ON RWY 19L. WITNESSES STATED THE AIRCRAFT CLIMBED STEEPLY AFTER IT LIFTED OFF WITH A PITCH ATTITUDE UP TO 60 DEGREES. ACCORDING TO WITNESSES, THE AIRCRAFT CLIMBED TO 200 TO 500 FT AGL, BEFORE IT STALLED AND DESCENDED NOSE DOWN IN A LEFT TURN. THE AIRCRAFT CRASHED ABOUT 300 FT LEFT OF AND 2000 FT DOWN THE RWY. EXAMINATION OF THE AIRCRAFT REVEALED THE FLAPS WERE FULL DOWN. THE SCROLL TYPE CHECKLIST WAS POSITIONED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE TAKEOFF CHECK. THE FLIGHT MANUAL RECOMMENDS A 10 DEGREE FLAP SETTING FOR TAKEOFF AND PROHIBITS FLAP FULL DOWN TAKEOFF. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS DHC-6 ACCIDENTS INVOLVING FLAP FULL DOWN RESULTED IN A STEEP TAKEOFF CLIMB AND EXCESSIVE PITCH ATTITUDE FOLLOWED BY A STALL. THE POSITION OF THE CONTROL LOCK SUGGESTS IT MAY HAVE BEEN IN THE LOCKED POSITION DRG THE TKOF.

#### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT INADVERTENTLY MISUSED THE FLAPS, BY FAILING TO SET THE FLAPS TO THE PROPER SETTING. THE FLAPS WERE SET FULL DOWN. THIS CAUSED THE AIRCRAFT TO PITCH UP STEEPLY AFTER LIFTOFF. ADDITIONALLY, THE FLIGHT CONTROL LOCK WAS PROBABLY INSTALLED DURING SOME PORTION, IF NOT THE ENTIRE FLIGHT, WHICH PREVENTED FLIGHT CONTROL OPERATION. THE PILOT SUBSEQUENTLY FAILED TO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE FLYING SPEED AND THE AIRCRAFT STALLED. CONTRIBUTING FACTORS ARE THE PILOT'S INATTENTION AND HIS FAILURE TO ADEQUATELY USE THE CHECKLIST.

#### **Findings**

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

#### **Findings**

- 1. (C) RAISING OF FLAPS NOT PERFORMED PILOT IN COMMAND
- 2. (F) INATTENTIVE PILOT IN COMMAND
- 3. (F) CHECKLIST NOT USED PILOT IN COMMAND
- 4. (F) PROCEDURES/DIRECTIVES NOT FOLLOWED PILOT IN COMMAND
- 5. (F) REMOVAL OF CONTROL/GUST LOCK(S) INADVERTENT USE PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Page 2 of 5 BFO88FA067

## **Factual Information**

#### **Pilot Information**

| Certificate:              | Airline Transport; Commercial                        | Age:                                     | 50, Male             |
|---------------------------|--|--|----------------------|
| Airplane Rating(s):       | Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land                | Seat Occupied:                           | Left                 |
| Other Aircraft Rating(s): | Helicopter   | Restraint Used:                          |                      |
| Instrument Rating(s):     | Airplane; Helicopter                                 | Second Pilot Present:                    | No                   |
| Instructor Rating(s):     |  | Toxicology Performed:                    | Yes                  |
| Medical Certification:    | Class 1 Valid Medicalw/waivers/lim.                  | Last FAA Medical Exam:                   | 02/12/1988           |
| Occupational Pilot:       |  | Last Flight Review or Equivalent:        |                      |
| Flight Time:              | 12400 hours (Total, all aircraft), 120 all aircraft) | ) hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 28 | hours (Last 30 days, |

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

| Aircraft Make:                | de Havilland   | Registration:                     | N7267                    |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Model/Series:                 | DHC-6-200 DHC-6-200                                    | Aircraft Category:                | Airplane                 |
| Year of Manufacture:          |  | Amateur Built:                    | No                       |
| Airworthiness Certificate:    | Normal   | Serial Number:                    | 195                      |
| Landing Gear Type:            | Tricycle   | Seats:                            | 21                       |
| Date/Type of Last Inspection: | 07/19/1988, AAIP                                       | Certified Max Gross Wt.:          | 11579 lbs                |
| Time Since Last Inspection:   | 1 Hours  | Engines:                          | 2 Turbo Prop             |
| Airframe Total Time:          | 10513 Hours  | Engine Manufacturer:              | P&W                      |
| ELT:                          | Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident | Engine Model/Series:              | PT-6A-20A                |
| Registered Owner:             | FAIRWAYS CORP.   | Rated Power:                      | 579 hp                   |
| Operator:                     | FAIRWAYS CORP.   | Operating Certificate(s)<br>Held: | On-demand Air Taxi (135) |
| Operator Does Business As:    |  | Operator Designator Code:         | FWYA                     |

Page 3 of 5 BFO88FA067

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

| Conditions at Accident Site:     | Visual Conditions    | Condition of Light:                  | Day              |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | IAD, 313 ft msl      | Distance from Accident Site:         | 0 Nautical Miles |
| Observation Time:                | 1550 EDT             | Direction from Accident Site:        | 0°               |
| Lowest Cloud Condition:          | Unknown / 0 ft agl   | Visibility                           | 8 Miles          |
| Lowest Ceiling:                  | Broken / 3400 ft agl | Visibility (RVR):                    | 0 ft             |
| Wind Speed/Gusts:                | 10 knots /           | Turbulence Type<br>Forecast/Actual:  | /                |
| Wind Direction:                  | 150°                 | Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual: | /                |
| Altimeter Setting:               | 29 inches Hg         | Temperature/Dew Point:               | 30°C / 24°C      |
| Precipitation and Obscuration:   |                      |                                      |                  |
| Departure Point:                 |                      | Type of Flight Plan Filed:           | IFR              |
| Destination:                     | WASHINGTON, DC (DCA) | Type of Clearance:                   | IFR              |
| Departure Time:                  | 1607 EDT             | Type of Airspace:                    | Class D          |
|                                  |                      |                                      |                  |

#### **Airport Information**

| Airport:             | DULLES INT'L (IAD) | Runway Surface Type:      | Concrete |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| Airport Elevation:   | 313 ft             | Runway Surface Condition: | Dry      |
| Runway Used:         | 19L                | IFR Approach:             | None     |
| Runway Length/Width: | 11500 ft / 150 ft  | VFR Approach/Landing:     | None     |

### Wreckage and Impact Information

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

### **Administrative Information**

| Investigator In Charge (IIC):     | DENNIS L JONES   | Report Date: | 06/11/1990 |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------------|------------|
| Additional Participating Persons: | EARL BORDEN; WASHINGTON, DC JOE HEXTER; WASHINGTON, DC JAMES DONNELLY; ONTARIO CANADA, LARRY C VANCE; MONCTON CANADA,  |              |            |
| 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:publing@ntsb.gov">publing@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.ntsb.gov/publims/">http://dms.ntsb.gov/publims/</a> . |              |            |

Page 4 of 5 BFO88FA067

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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 <a href="here">here</a>.

Page 5 of 5 BFO88FA067