

National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location: MARANA, AZ Accident Number: DCA90MA055

Date & Time: 09/20/1990, 0707 MST Registration: N320MJ

Aircraft: BOEING 707-321B Aircraft Damage: Destroyed

Defining Event: Injuries: 1 Fatal, 2 Serious

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Ferry

Analysis

WITNESSES RPRTD 1ST ATMT TO TKOF WAS ABORTED AFTER ACFT SWERVED LEFT & RGT. ON 2ND TRY, ACFT LIFTED OFF ABT HALFWAY DWN RWY. AFTER LIFT-OFF, IT ROLLED RGT, RGT WING HIT GND & ACFT CRASHED, INV REVEALED RUDDER TRIM WAS 7.9 TO 8.3 UNITS (79% TO 83%) NOSE RGT. SIMULATOR TESTS WITH THAT SETTING RESULTED IN CONSISTENT RGT WING COLLISIONS WITH GND AFTER LIFT-OFF. CREW'S CHECKLIST REFERRED TO MECH CHECKLIST FOR CRITICAL ITEMS TO CHECK BFR TKOF. MECH CHECKLIST & 50 OF 54 FLT INST HAD BEEN REMOVED FM ACFT, LEAVING 2 AIRSPEED INDCRS, ALTIMETER & STBY GYRO HORIZON. IN 60 SIMULATED TKOFS IN THIS CONFIGURATION, THERE WAS EVIDENCE OF INSUFFICIENT ATTITUDINAL REF TO RECOGNIZE ROLLING OF ACFT BFR SUFFICIENT ALT WAS ATTAINED. FAA'S DESIGNATED AIRWORTHINESS REP (DAR) HAD INSPD ACFT 3 DAYS BFR & ISSUED FERRY PERMIT. HE LACKED FAA MECH CERT & EXPERIENCE WITH LARGE ACFT. FAA ORDER 8000.62 & AC 183.33 LACKED SPEC GUIDANCE FOR SELECTION, TRNG & OVERSIGHT OF DAR ACTIVITY. ALSO, LACK OF GUIDANCE CONCERNING MIN EQUIP LIST. PLT NOT CURRENT OR MED QUALIFIED TO FLY ACFT.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: IMPROPER PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION BY THE PILOT, AND HIS FAILURE TO USE A CHECKLIST. FACTORS RELATED TO THE ACCIDENT WERE: THE FAA'S INADEQUATE SURVEILLANCE OF THE OPERATION, THE FAA'S INSUFFICIENT STANDARDS/REQUIREMENTS, THE PILOT'S OPERATION OF THE AIRCRAFT WITH KNOWN DEFICIENCES, AND HIS LACK OF RECENT EXPERIENCE IN THE TYPE OF AIRCRAFT.

Findings

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

Findings

- 1. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION INADEQUATE PILOT IN COMMAND
- 2. (F) OPERATION WITH KNOWN DEFICIENCIES IN EQUIPMENT PERFORMED PILOT IN COMMAND
- 3. (C) CHECKLIST NOT USED PILOT IN COMMAND
- 4. (F) LACK OF RECENT EXPERIENCE IN TYPE OF AIRCRAFT PILOT IN COMMAND
- 5. LACK OF RECENT EXPERIENCE IN TYPE OPERATION PILOT IN COMMAND
- 6. (F) INADEQUATE SURVEILLANCE OF OPERATION FAA(ORGANIZATION)
- 7. (F) INSUFFICIENT STANDARDS/REQUIREMENTS FAA(ORGANIZATION)

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

8. TERRAIN CONDITION - GROUND

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Factual Information

Pilot Information

| Certificate: | Airline Transport | Age: | 60, Male |
|---------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Airplane Rating(s): | Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land | Seat Occupied: | Left |
| Other Aircraft Rating(s): | | Restraint Used: | Seatbelt, Shoulder harness |
| Instrument Rating(s): | Airplane | Second Pilot Present: | |
| Instructor Rating(s): | None | Toxicology Performed: | Yes |
| Medical Certification: | Class 1 Invalid Medical for flight | Last FAA Medical Exam: | 04/13/1990 |
| Occupational Pilot: | | Last Flight Review or Equivalent: | |
| Flight Time: | 13192 hours (Total, all aircraft), 4000 hours (Total, this make and model), 12000 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 14 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 14 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft) | | |

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

| Third are and Owner, Op | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Aircraft Make: | BOEING | Registration: | N320MJ |
| Model/Series: | 707-321B 707-321B | Aircraft Category: | Airplane |
| Year of Manufacture: | | Amateur Built: | No |
| Airworthiness Certificate: | Special Flight | Serial Number: | 20028 |
| Landing Gear Type: | Retractable - Tricycle | Seats: | 3 |
| Date/Type of Last Inspection: | 09/17/1990, Unknown | Certified Max Gross Wt.: | 320000 lbs |
| Time Since Last Inspection: | 0 Hours | Engines: | 4 Turbo Fan |
| Airframe Total Time: | 34965 Hours | Engine Manufacturer: | P&W |
| ELT: | Not installed | Engine Model/Series: | JT3D-3 |
| Registered Owner: | OMEGA AIR, INC. | Rated Power: | 18000 lbs |
| Operator: | OMEGA AIR, INC. | Operating Certificate(s) Held: | None |
| | | | |

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Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

| Conditions at Accident Site: | Visual Conditions | Condition of Light: | Day |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | DMA, 2705 ft msl | Distance from Accident Site: | 32 Nautical Miles |
| Observation Time: | 0650 MST | Direction from Accident Site: | 180° |
| Lowest Cloud Condition: | Scattered / 7000 ft agl | Visibility | 40 Miles |
| Lowest Ceiling: | None / 0 ft agl | Visibility (RVR): | 0 ft |
| Wind Speed/Gusts: | Calm / | Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual: | / |
| Wind Direction: | | Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual: | / |
| Altimeter Setting: | 29 inches Hg | Temperature/Dew Point: | 22°C / 14°C |
| Precipitation and Obscuration: | | | |
| Departure Point: | MARANA, AZ (MZJ) | Type of Flight Plan Filed: | VFR |
| Destination: | TUCSON, AZ (DMA) | Type of Clearance: | None |
| Departure Time: | 0000 | Type of Airspace: | Class G |
| | | | |

Airport Information

| Airport: | PINAL AIRPARK | Runway Surface Type: | Asphalt |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| Airport Elevation: | 1891 ft | Runway Surface Condition: | Dry |
| Runway Used: | 12 | IFR Approach: | None |
| Runway Length/Width: | 6280 ft / 150 ft | VFR Approach/Landing: | None |

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

| Investigator In Charge (IIC): | ALFRED W DICKINSON | Report Date: | 01/15/1992 |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------------|------------|
| Additional Participating Persons: | DON ELAM THURMAN JONES RICK MCNEELY DAVID FOWLER | | |
| 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 publing@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.ntsb.gov/pubdms/ . | | |

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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 <a href="https://example.com/here-new-matter-new-mat

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