



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	LLOYD, NY	Accident Number:	NYC90FA083
Date & Time:	04/01/1990, 1130 EDT	Registration:	N7034F
Aircraft:	CESSNA 150F	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE NON INSTRUMENT RATED PILOT REPORTED THE WEATHER AT HIS DEPARTURE POINT WAS A 800 FT CEILING WITH 4 MILES VISIBILITY. HE RECEIVED A WEATHER BRIEFING FOR HIS DESTINATION WHICH WAS 12 MILES AWAY AND REPORTING A 1400 FT CEILING WITH 4 MILES VISIBILITY. ENROUTE TO HIS DESTINATION, THE AIRPLANE STRUCK A 300 FT HIGH TOWER AT THE 140 FT AGL LEVEL, FELL TO THE BASE OF THE TOWER AND BURNED. THE PILOT WAS FATALLY INJURED. THE TOWER THE AIRPLANE STRUCK WAS LOCATED 5.7 NM FROM AND 16 DEGREES NORTH OF A STRAIGHT LINE BETWEEN HIS DEPARTURE POINT AND DESTINATION. WITNESSES SAID THE MOUNTAIN TOP WHERE THE ANTENNA WAS LOCATED WAS OBSCURED WITH FOG. THE PILOT HAD FLOWN THE ROUTE FOR YEARS.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: PILOT FACTOR IN THAT HE WAS ATTEMPTING VFR FLIGHT IN INC CONDITIONS AND COLLIDED WITH A MULTIPURPOSE COMMUNICATIONS TOWER.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER

Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

Findings

1. PREFLIGHT BRIEFING SERVICE - PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) IN-FLIGHT PLANNING/DECISION - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) OVERCONFIDENCE IN PERSONAL ABILITY - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) FLIGHT INTO KNOWN ADVERSE WEATHER - INTENTIONAL - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - INTENTIONAL - PILOT IN COMMAND
6. (F) LACK OF TOTAL INSTRUMENT TIME - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

7. (F) OBJECT - TOWER

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	53, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	09/08/1989
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1934 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1865 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 47 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 28 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 17 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N7034F
Model/Series:	150F 150F	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal; Utility	Serial Number:	15063634
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	01/02/1990, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1600 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	44 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	4829 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	O-200A
Registered Owner:	DONALD H FEFEE	Rated Power:	100 hp
Operator:	DONALD H. FEFEE	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	NONE

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	POU, 166 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	8 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1147 EDT	Direction from Accident Site:	151°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear / 0 ft agl	Visibility	4 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 1200 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	Calm /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	7°C / 4°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	NEW PALTZ, NY (N43)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	POUGHKEEPSIE, NY (POU)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1120 EDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	ROBERT L HANCOCK	Report Date:	09/21/1992
Additional Participating Persons:	DICK VAEHRINGER; ALBANY, NY ANDREW HALL; WICHITA, KS		
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](#).