



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	LK HAVASU CITY, AZ	Accident Number:	LAX88FA101
Date & Time:	02/02/1988, 1400 MST	Registration:	N60566
Aircraft:	CESSNA U206F	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Fatal

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Personal

Analysis

THE PLT INITIATED A X-COUNTRY FLT OVER MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN. NO RECORD OF A WX BRIEFING WAS FOUND, NOR DID HE FILE A FLT PLAN. THE AREA WX FORECAST WAS FOR MARGINAL VFR CONDITIONS WITH MOUNTAIN OBSCURATION. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE ACFT CRASHED ON MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN ABOUT 12 MI FROM THE DESTINATION ARPT. IMPACT OCCURRED ON STEEP TERRAIN AT AN ELEVATION OF ABOUT 3900'. WRECKAGE WAS SCATTERED ABOUT 800' DOWNSLOPE FROM THE INITIAL IMPACT POINT. A GROUND SCAR INDICATED INITIAL IMPACT OCCURRED WITH THE LEFT WING & NOSE OF THE ACFT. ROCKS & SMALL BRUSH NEXT TO THE GROUND SCAR WERE NOT DISTURBED. WX AT THE DESTN ARPT (ELEVATION 483') WAS IN PART: 1900' OVERCAST, VISIBILITY 5 MI WITH LIGHT RAIN SHOWERS. NO PREIMPACT PART FAILURE OR MALFUNCTION WAS FOUND, BUT THE ACFT WAS EXTENSIVELY DAMAGED. DRG IMPACT, THE PROP BLADES SEPD FROM THE HUB & EXHIBITED CHORDWISE SCORING & LEADING EDGE GOUGES. ONE BLADE HAD S-BENDING, THE TIP OF THE OTHER BLADE SEPD DRG IMPACT. PLT'S LAST MED CERT WAS DATED 3/8/79.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: PILOT'S DECISION TO CONTINUE FLIGHT IN FORECAST MARGINAL VFR CONDITIONS IN MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN. CONTRIBUTING TO THIS ACCIDENT WAS THE FAILURE OF THE PILOT TO OBTAIN AN AVIATION WEATHER BRIEFING AND HIS LACK OF RECURRENT TRAINING.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER

Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

Findings

1. (F) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - HIGH TERRAIN
3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - LOW CEILING
4. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - FOG
5. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - RAIN
6. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - OBSCURATION
7. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - CONTINUED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

8. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
9. (C) SPATIAL DISORIENTATION - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

10. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - MOUNTAINOUS/HILLY

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	65, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Expired	Last FAA Medical Exam:	03/08/1979
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	878 hours (Total, all aircraft), 822 hours (Total, this make and model), 822 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 24 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N60566
Model/Series:	U206F U206F	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal; Utility	Serial Number:	U20602033
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	04/13/1987, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3600 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	185 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	4261 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520-F
Registered Owner:	BRAUN, ERNEST	Rated Power:	230 hp
Operator:	BRAUN, ERNEST	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	LHU, 483 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	13 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1350 MST	Direction from Accident Site:	245°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	0 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	340°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	10° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	RYAN, AZ (RYN)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	LK HAVASU CITY, AZ (LHW)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1200 MST	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	THOMAS H WILCOX	Report Date:	01/31/1990
Additional Participating Persons:	S R THOMAS; SCOTTSDALE, AZ ROBERT A WHITE; WICHITA, KS MICHAEL J GRIMES; LANCASTER, CA		
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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