



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	HILTON HEAD, SC	Accident Number:	ATL87FA257
Date & Time:	09/01/1987, 1135 EDT	Registration:	N6591S
Aircraft:	BEECH V-35B	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Business		

Analysis

PIC SAID HE HAD WX BRIEF. NOTED TSTMS OVR ATLANTIC & FOG AT ARPT. STATED HE WOULD HOLD OVR OCEAN UNTIL ARPT CLR. ACFT TRACK ON RADAR WAS INTO AREA OF TSTMS OVR OCEAN FOLLOWED BY MODE C ALTITUDE DEVIATIONS AND LOSS OF RADAR CONTACT. ACFT RECOVERED FROM OCEAN. EXAMINATION SHOWED DOWNWARD BENDING OF STABILIZERS AND TENSION SEPARATION OF BULKHEAD WHERE STABILIZERS ATTACH BUT NO IN-FLIGHT SEPARATION OF AIRFRAME. ACFT WAS MODIFIED WITH BEECH STABILIZER ROOT REINFORCEMENT KIT.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

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

Findings

1. WEATHER CONDITION - THUNDERSTORM
 2. WEATHER EVALUATION - NOT UNDERSTOOD - PILOT IN COMMAND
 3. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
 4. RADAR ASSISTANCE TO VFR AIRCRAFT - IMPROPER USE OF - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

5. (C) BECAME LOST/DISORIENTED - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND
 6. (C) SPATIAL DISORIENTATION - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

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:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	05/06/1986
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	100 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BEECH	Registration:	N6591S
Model/Series:	V-35B V-35B	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	D-9844
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	5
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	06/01/1987, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3400 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	969 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520-BA
Registered Owner:	THINEL, INC.	Rated Power:	285 hp
Operator:	THINEL, INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	SAV, 51 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	35 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1150 EDT	Direction from Accident Site:	250°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	7 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 1000 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	320°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	27° C / 24° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	TAMPA, FL (X16)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	CHARLESTON, SC (CHS)	Type of Clearance:	
Departure Time:	0946 EDT	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):	PRESTON E HICKS	Report Date:	10/07/1988
Additional Participating Persons:	TOM MOHONEY; COLUMBIA, SC BRIAN YNEZ; WICHITA, KS JERRY STABB; 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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