



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	LAS VEGAS, NM	Accident Number:	DEN86FA246
Date & Time:	09/01/1986, 2353 MDT	Registration:	N83F
Aircraft:	CESSNA 182D	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	4 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE ACFT DEPARTED THE ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO, CORONADO ARPT, AT 2248 MDT, SEPTEMBER 1, 1986, EN ROUTE TO LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO. WHEN THE ACFT FAILED TO ARRIVE AS SCHEDULED, A SEARCH WAS INITIATED. THE FLIGHT WAS LOST ON RADAR AT 2353 MDT, 15 NAUTICAL MILES SOUTH OF LAS VEGAS. THE WRECKAGE WAS LOCATED AT 1700 MDT ON SEPTEMBER 2, 1986. THE ACFT HAD IMPACTED IN A 90 DEGREE LEFT WING LOW, NOSE DOWN ATTITUDE AND WAS SCATTERED OVER AN AREA 425 FEET LONG. WEATHER IN THE AREA WAS THUNDERSTORMS WITH RAIN SHOWERS AND HAIL.

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 - NORMAL

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - THUNDERSTORM
2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - HAIL
3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - RAIN
4. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - LIGHTNING
5. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT
6. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

7. (C) SPIRAL - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND
8. (C) SPATIAL DISORIENTATION - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	48, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	01/10/1986
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	868 hours (Total, all aircraft), 500 hours (Total, this make and model), 682 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 31 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 17 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N83F
Model/Series:	182D 182D	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	18253539
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2650 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-470-L
Registered Owner:	DENIS T. ROMERO	Rated Power:	230 hp
Operator:	DENIS T. ROMERO	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	LVS, 6866 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	15 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	2158 MDT	Direction from Accident Site:	10°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 600 ft agl	Visibility	0 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Obscured / 600 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	28 knots / 34 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	170°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	15° C / 13° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	ALBUQUERQUE, NM (4AC)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	LAS VEGAS, NM (LVS)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	2248 MDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	3 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	4 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	PRENTISS E MANGUM	Report Date:	
Additional Participating Persons:	WALT TIDMORE; ALBUQUERQUE, NM TERESA O'LEARY; WICHITA, KS M R BRIDGEWATER; HURST, TX		
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](#).