



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	WOODSIDE, CA	Accident Number:	LAX85FA131
Date & Time:	02/01/1985, 0000 PST	Registration:	N8345Y
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-28-161	Injuries:	3 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE PLT DEPARTED SAN CARLOS FOR A 12 NM X-COUNTRY TO HALF MOON BAY, CA, WITH A RETURN LEG TO SAN CARLOS. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER OR NOT THE FLT ARRIVED AT HALF MOON BAY. THE ACFT CRASHED IN REMOTE MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN APRX 4 NM WEST OF THE WOODSIDE VOR WHICH IS LOCATED SOUTH OF THE SAN CARLOS ARPT. WITNESSES IN THE AREA STATED THAT THE TERRAIN WAS OBSCURED BY LOW CLOUDS AND RAIN ON THE EVENING OF THE ACCIDENT.

Probable Cause

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: UNKNOWN

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - OBSCURATION
2. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - HIGH TERRAIN
3. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT
4. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - ATTEMPTED - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (C) PROPER ALTITUDE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	22
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	104 hours (Total, all aircraft), 5 hours (Total, this make and model), 25 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 15 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N8345Y
Model/Series:	PA-28-161 PA-28-161	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	GOLDEN GATE PIPER	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-D36
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Unknown	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Witness
Lowest Ceiling:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	/ ,
Temperature:		Visibility	0 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	SAN CARLOS, CA (SQL)	Destination:	SAN CARLOS, CA (SQL)

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	AUDREY M SCHUTTE	Adopted 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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