



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	LIVERMORE, CA	Accident Number:	LAX83FA314
Date & Time:	07/01/1983, 0715 PDT	Registration:	N9945U
Aircraft:	GRUMMAN AMERICAN AA-5A	Injuries:	1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE ACFT COLLIDED WITH RISING TERRAIN DURING A CROSS-COUNTRY IN IMC WEATHER. NO FLT PLAN WAS FILED FOR THE FLT. NO WEATHER BRIEFING WAS OBTAINED BY THE PILOT BEFORE TAKEOFF. THE DISTANCE TO BE FLOWN WAS 72 MILES AND THE PILOT FLEW THIS ROUTE ABOUT 3 TIMES A WEEK. THE FLT GOT WITHIN 5 MILES OF DESTINATION BEFORE COLLIDING WITH THE TERRAIN AT 1200 FT MSL. THE MOUNTAIN TOPS IN THE AREA GO AS HIGH AS 2500 FT MSL. THE PILOT WAS FLYING UP A CANYON IN LOW OVERCAST WEATHER CONDITIONS.

Probable Cause

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) PREFLIGHT BRIEFING SERVICE - NOT OBTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
 2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - FOG
 3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - LOW CEILING
 4. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - OBSCURATION
 5. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - CONTINUED - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

Findings

6. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - MOUNTAINOUS/HILLY

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Flight Instructor; Commercial	Age:	58
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Single-engine
Flight Time:	455 hours (Total, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	GRUMMAN AMERICAN	Registration:	N9945U
Model/Series:	AA-5A AA-5A	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	IRVING M. WEISS	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-E2G
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	LVK, 397 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 1200 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	10 knots / , 210°
Temperature:	20°C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	FAIR OAKS, CA (011)	Destination:	LIVERMORE, CA (LVK)

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	
Runway Used:	0	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:			

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): M. W FUNK II

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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