

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

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Investigation of: *

AIRPLANE N75191 CRASH NEAR *

SALEM, SOUTH DAKOTA * Docket No.: CEN19LA053

JANUARY 13, 2019 *

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Sioux Falls Approach
Air Traffic Control Communications

Sunday,
January 13, 2019



R E C O R D I N G

1
2 N75191: Sioux Falls Approach, how do you read?
3 ATC: Sioux Falls Approach reads you loud and clear.
4 N75191: This is 75191, just off Mitchell. I've got a situation.
5 ATC: N75191, Sioux Falls Approach, go ahead.
6 N75191: I'm 2800 feet now and, after I leveled off out of
7 Mitchell headed for Skie, I got hit by ungodly chest
8 pain. I've never, never experienced anything like it.
9 I'm going to try and handle it, but I, I wanted to let
10 you know what's going on.
11 ATC: N75191, roger. I have you loud and clear, and you let
12 me know how I can assist. And I did miss what the
13 situation was. What, what, what did you hit?
14 N75191: I got hit with chest pains once I leveled off out of
15 Mitchell. A terrible squeezing sensation in my chest
16 like I have a weight on my chest like a --
17 U/I: I, I think I need to go back.
18 ATC: N75191, roger.
19 N75191: Like a weight of a semi, semi on me. When the, when the
20 pain, when the chest pain hits me, I, I think I'm
21 blacking out. So I'm worried about maintaining control
22 of the plane.
23 ATC: 7735, contact tower, (indiscernible) .3.
24 7735: Over. Tower.
25 ATC: N75191, roger. How long ago did you leave Mitchell?

1 N75191: Oh, 15, 12 -- 12, 15 minutes.

2 ATC: N75191, roger. I don't have you on radar yet, but I
3 understand your approximate position. Just keep me
4 posted if there's anything I can do here for you. And
5 previous, I was saying, possibly returning to Mitchell
6 might be an option, or we'll do our best to try to get
7 you on radar as you're getting closer to Lincoln County,
8 too.

9 N75191: When I, when I black out with these spasms, I, I lose
10 control of the plane for a bit. So I don't want to get
11 near a town. I don't want to get anywhere near a
12 neighborhood or a house or somebody on the ground. So
13 right now I'm over a farm field and I'm just going to
14 try and sort this out, see what I can do over a --
15 there's nobody below, there's no houses. So I'm working
16 on that.

17 ATC: N75191, roger. Understood. I'm still not picking you
18 up on radar. You said you're about 15 miles east of, of
19 -- or 15 minutes east of Mitchell. I'll pass that on to
20 authorities here. I understand your intentions. The
21 Sioux Falls altimeter here is 30.33.

22 N75191, are you still with me?

23 N75191: I, I just want to keep you posted. I, I, I have
24 tremendous chest pain. My, my left arm, I can hardly
25 move it. I've got stabbing pains around my heart. And

1 when the worst pain hits, ah, ah, I can barely -- I
2 can't enough air. My vision goes in and out. I'm
3 trying to hold the plane level here. I'm dizzy and the
4 pain is unbelievable. So I'm going to try and stay over
5 a farm field here to make sure I don't get anywhere near
6 houses or a neighborhood.

7 ATC: N75191, roger. I do have someone with some medical
8 training here. They were saying possible try to cough
9 as hard as you can. That might help relieve some of the
10 pain in the short term. But whatever you need to do,
11 we'll, we'll be here.

12 N75191, we are -- believe that you're about 27 miles
13 west of Sioux Falls. We do have your lat and long from
14 that, assuming that's you. And if, if you are able to
15 land on a road or something like that, we will have
16 emergency services out towards your position as soon as
17 possible.

18 N75191: Ah. Oh, God. Oh, God. I guess I'm, I'm reporting an
19 emergency, a medical emergency, presumably a heart
20 attack.

21 ATC: N75191, roger. We have the emergency.

22 N75191, are you alone in the plane or do you have a
23 passenger?

24 N75191: I'm alone. And I -- just to fill you in, when these
25 spasms of pain hit, I'm pretty sure I black out for a

1 while. I don't know how long. Because when I come to
2 the plane is doing something, you know, different. So
3 I'm worried about losing control in the, you know, in
4 the proximity of any houses or towns or neighborhoods.
5 I want to try and stay out here over these farm fields
6 and try to, try to get through this and sort it out.

7 ATC: N75191, roger. Thanks for the update.

8 N75191, and just talking up here, starting to think
9 that, you know, if you have one of the country roads in
10 sight, to maybe try to get lined up with that when
11 you're in between the, the pains, to try to see if you
12 can set the plane down or get it lined up.

13 N75191, Sioux Falls Approach. How's it going?

14 N75191, are you still with me?

15 N75191: Yeah, I'm just trying to keep it straight and level
16 here. I'm going in and out of blackouts with the pain.
17 So I, I --

18 ATC: N75191, roger.

19 ATC: November-1-Niner-1, this is a supervisor. I need you to
20 find a road, rather than circling up over there. Is
21 there a road nearby that you can try to find and land
22 safely on?

23 And, November-1-Niner-1, we've looked at the latitude
24 and longitude of what we believe is your aircraft.
25 There are several large country roads there that we

1 would highly recommend. If you can put the aircraft
2 down on those roads, that would be, that would be
3 wonderful.

4 N75191: It's coming and going in and out. I'm having
5 trouble even just with the horizon right now.

6 ATC: November-1-Niner-1, if you can safely put the aircraft
7 down at this point in a field, on a road, that's what
8 we'd recommend, rather than losing consciousness at
9 altitude there.

10 Cherokee 1-Niner-1, are you able to find a safe place to
11 put the aircraft down, sir?

12 Cherokee 1-Niner-1, we're talking to South Dakota patrol
13 and we're talking to the sheriff's department. We're
14 getting help towards your direction, but we need you to
15 put the aircraft down if you can find a road or a field
16 to safely put the aircraft down, that's the
17 recommendation.

18 N75191: (Groans) I hear you. I'm dealing with it. A
19 crushing --

20 ATC: Cherokee 1-Niner-1, I know you're busy, sir. What's
21 your altitude?

22 N75191: 2800.

23 ATC: Cherokee 1-Niner-1, do you see any roads in front of you
24 or below you that look like you could possibly put the
25 aircraft on that road? A highway, even a dirt road at

1 this point.

2 Cherokee 1-Niner-1, even a field at this point would be
3 pretty hard, with the temperatures, if you could find a
4 safe field to put it down, and then we do have your
5 latitude and longitude and we are sending help on your
6 way.

7 Cherokee 1-Niner-1, Sioux Falls Approach, how do you
8 hear?

9 N75191: I hear you.

10 ATC: Cherokee 1-Niner-1, I want to help you every way that I
11 can. If there's any way you can get that airplane on
12 the ground so we can get ambulance or -- we can get fire
13 and ambulance to you.

14 N75191: Okay. I'm going in and out of blackout here. I don't,
15 I don't know if I can hold it, hold it much longer.
16 (Groaning) The chest pain is ungodly. I'm being
17 squeezed. (Groaning)

18 ATC: Cherokee 1-Niner-1, if you could slowly descend towards
19 a field. Just get the airplane on the ground at this
20 point. Just slowly descend towards a field or whatever
21 is in front of you, sir.

22 Cherokee 1-Niner-1, Sioux Falls Approach.

23 N75191: I don't think I can hold it much longer.

24 ATC: Cherokee 1-Niner-1, can you, can you descend the
25 aircraft towards a field, sir. Please.

1 Cherokee 1-Niner-1, we have help on the way, if you
2 could somehow get the airplane down in a field. Even if
3 you can't find a road, that's fine, just get the
4 airplane down in a field and we'll get help to you.
5 Cherokee 1-Niner-1, continue to look for a field if you
6 can, Cherokee 1-Niner-1, or a road. And we're talking
7 to the sheriff, we'll get help to you.
8 Cherokee 1-Niner-1, suspected target lost. Do you still
9 hear Sioux Falls Approach?
10 Cherokee 1-Niner-1, Sioux Falls Approach.
11 ATC: Cherokee 4-7-Romeo, Sioux Falls Approach. Cherokee 4-7-
12 Romeo, Sioux Falls Approach.
13 ATC: Cherokee -- Cherokee 1-Niner-1, I'm sorry, Sioux Falls
14 Approach. Cherokee 1-Niner-1, Sioux Falls Approach.
15 Cherokee 751-Niner-1, Sioux Falls Approach. How do you
16 hear?
17 Cherokee 1-Niner-1, Sioux Falls Approach. How do you
18 hear?
19 (End of recording)

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the attached proceeding before the


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was held according to the record, and that this is the original,
complete, true and accurate transcript which has been transcribed
to the best of my skill and ability.



Kay Maurer
Transcriber