



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

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Internet Video of March 16, 2012 Accident Flight
Date: July 31, 2012
NTSB Accident Number: ERA12LA231

Narrative:

Video footage taken by one or more parachutists during the balloon's ascent on the accident flight was published on Youtube on April 30, 2012. The video provided altitude updates in subtitles, captured audio of the pilot's conversation with his ground crew, and provided visual evidence of the developing storm as the balloon entered the base of the clouds. The dialogue below was derived from the posted internet video.

5,380 feet: 3 minutes, 10 seconds into Video

Ground Crew: Say again.

Pilot: That thunderstorm cell, what phase is it in?

Pilot: Is it building or is it dissipating?

Ground Crew: Building.

Pilot: I'm right on the edge of it then.

Pilot: Ok, anytime you want to go, take off.

6,280 feet: 3 minutes, 56 seconds into Video

Unnamed Parachutist: Alright, let's do this.

Pilot: We're getting into this cloud.

Pilot: Just take off.

On Ground: 8 minutes, 1 second into Video

Unnamed Parachutist: It was choppy up there, huh?

Unnamed Parachutist: Yeah that was *sick*. In a storm.