



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Office of Aviation Safety
Washington, D.C. 20594

November 1, 2013

Attachment 12 – Weather

OPERATIONAL FACTORS

ERA13MA139

Table Of Contents

A. WEATHER.....	2
1.1 Synoptic conditions.....	2
1.2 Observations	2
1.3 Pilot Reports (UA)	3
1.4 Terminal Forecast (TAF)	3
1.5 Area Forecast (FA)	3
1.6 In-Flight Weather Advisories	4
1.7 Satellite Imagery	5

A. WEATHER¹

1.1 Synoptic conditions

The NWS Surface Analysis Chart for 1900 EST on February 20, 2013 (0000Z 21FEB) depicted a cold core high pressure system at 1042-hPa over Ontario, Canada with a ridge of high pressure extending south-southeast across the United States into the southeast. A weak trough of low pressure was depicted across North Carolina, South Carolina, and northern Georgia with a relative weak pressure gradient associated with it over Georgia. No significant weather was depicted over the state during the period with clear skies and light winds.

Weather radar depicted no significant meteorological echoes over the region surrounding the period.

1.2 Observations

Departure – John C. Tune Airport (KJWN), Nashville, TN (Field elevation 495 feet)

*KBNA 202353Z 02007KT 10SM BKN130 M01/M09 A3026 RMK AO2 SLP251 T10061094 10022 21006 56014=
KBNA 210053Z 03005KT 10SM CLR M02/M09 A3026 RMK AO2 SLP253 T10171094=*

Destination – Thomson – McDuffie County Airport (KHQU), Augusta, GA, elevation 422 feet, variation 4° W. Airport was equipped with an Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) and reported the following conditions:

Weather for Thomson-McDuffie County Airport at 2015 EST (0115Z) automated, wind from 240° true at 6 knots, visibility unrestricted at 10 statute miles, ceiling broken at 12,000 feet agl,² temperature 11° Celsius (C), dew point -3° C, altimeter 30.15 inches of mercury. Remarks: automated observation system, temperature 10.6° C, dew point -3.5° C.

*Wind components was a 4 knot tailwind and 5 knot crosswind for runway 10.

¹ Weather conditions on February 20, 2013 Augusta, GA. Source: Don Eick, NTSB.

² Above ground level.

The raw AWOS³ observations were as follows:

*KHQU 202355Z AUTO 27004KT 10SM BKN110 11/M03 A3016 RMK AO1 T01101030 10148
20108=
KHQU 210015Z AUTO 24006KT 10SM BKN120 11/M03 A3015 RMK AO1 T01061035=
KHQU 210035Z AUTO 00000KT 10SM SCT120 10/M03 A3013 RMK AO1 T01001034=
KHQU 210055Z AUTO 00000KT 10SM CLR 09/M04 A3012 RMK AO1 T00931044=*

Accident 0106Z

*KHQU 210115Z DATA MISSING
KHQU 210135Z AUTO 26003KT 10SM 06/M03 A3012 RMK AO1 T00611026=
KHQU 210155Z AUTO 28003KT 10SM CLR 06/M01 A3013 RMK AO1 T00551012=
KHQU 210215Z AUTO 00000KT 10SM CLR 05/M01 A3013 RMK AO1 T00511012=*

1.3 Pilot Reports (UA)

*RMG UA /OV RMG030010/TM 2130/FL060/TP PA32/TB MOD/RM ZTL CWSU=
RMG UA /OV RMG/TM 0043/FL150/TP MD88/TA M09/IC LGT RIME/RM ZTL CWSU=
RMG UA /OV GAD090020/TM 0107/FL160/TP BE9L/TA M13/IC LGT RIME 170-160/RM ZTL
CWSU=*

1.4 Terminal Forecast (TAF)

No TAFs are issued for KHQU. The closest forecast was for Augusta Regional Airport at Bush Field (KAGS) located 29 miles east of the planned destination airport. The forecast was as follows:

*TAF KAGS 202320Z 2100/2124 32005KT P6SM OVC100
FM210600 02004KT P6SM SCT120
FM211400 06008KT P6SM SCT250=*

1.5 Area Forecast (FA)

*FAUS42 KKCI 201845 2013051 1833
FA2W
-MIAC FA 201845
SYNOPSIS AND VFR CLDS/WX
SYNOPSIS VALID UNTIL 211300
CLDS/WX VALID UNTIL 210700...OTLK VALID 210700-211300
NC SC GA FL AND CSTL WTRS E OF 85W
.
SEE AIRMET SIERRA FOR IFR CONDS AND MTN OBSCN.
TS IMPLY SEV OR GTR TURB SEV ICE LLWS AND IFR CONDS.
NON MSL HGTS DENOTED BY AGL OR CIG.
.*

*SYNOPSIS...E-W QUASI-STNRY FNT ACROSS XTRM SRN TIP FL AND FL KEYS
FCST LTL CHANGE THRU 13Z. HIGH PRES ELSW THRU PD.*

*.
GA
SCT-BKN CI. OTLK...VFR.*

1.6 In-Flight Weather Advisories

AIRMETs current during the period – only moderate turbulence below 8,000 feet:

*WAUS42 KKCI 202045 2013051 2046
WA2S
-MIAS WA 202045
AIRMET SIERRA UPDT 3 FOR IFR VALID UNTIL 210300*

*.
NO SGFNT IFR EXP OUTSIDE OF CNVTV ACT.*

*....
WAUS42 KKCI 202045 2013051 2035
WA2Z
-MIAZ WA 202045
AIRMET ZULU UPDT 3 FOR ICE AND FRZLVL VALID UNTIL 210300*

*.
NO SGFNT ICE EXP OUTSIDE OF CNVTV ACT.*

*.
FRZLVL...RANGING FROM SFC-160 ACRS AREA
MULT FRZLVL BLW 100 BOUNDED BY BKW-190ESE ECG-130SE ILM-20SW
ILM-CLT-ODF-40N ATL-GQO-HMV-BKW
SFC ALG 20ESE VXV-50SSW HMV-30NE GSO
040 ALG 40SW VXV-20NNE CLT-70S ECG-150ESE ECG-190ESE ECG
080 ALG 30W ATL-20NE CAE-150ESE ILM
120 ALG 40W CEW-40SE TLH-220SE CHS*

*....
WAUS42 KKCI 202045 2013051 2034
WA2T
-MIAT WA 202045
AIRMET TANGO UPDT 3 FOR TURB VALID UNTIL 210300*

1.7 Satellite Imagery

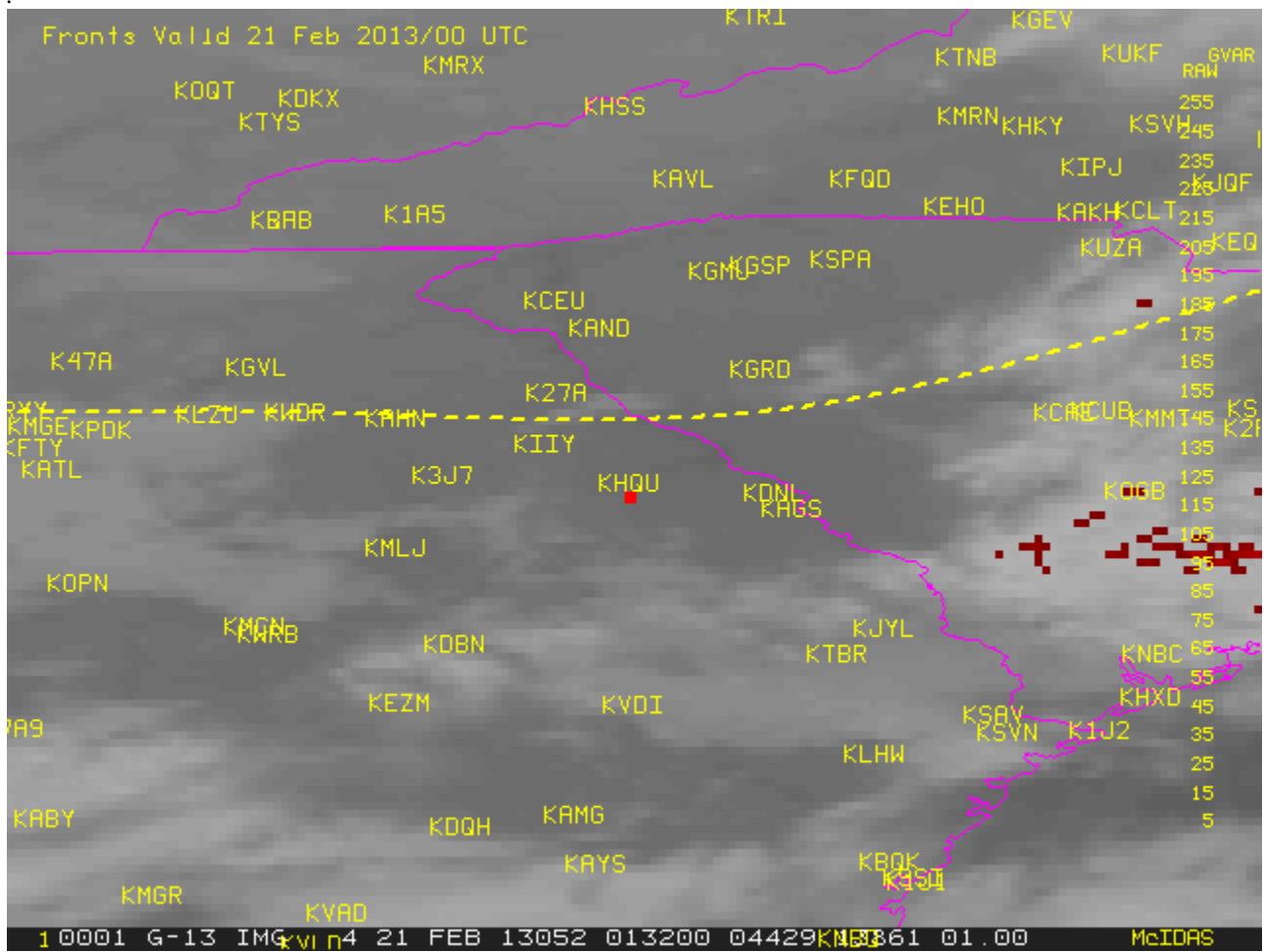


Photo 1: Radar satellite imagery.