



US Department  
of Transportation  
Federal Aviation  
Administration

# Memorandum

Great Falls AFSS  
3015 Airport Lane  
Great Falls, MT 59404

Subject: **INFORMATION:** Transcript; Reference Aircraft  
Accident; **N206EC**; Red Lodge, MT; June 9, 1997

Date: 6/26/97

Reply To  
Attn of:

From: Air Traffic Manager, GTF AFSS

To: This transcription covers the Great Falls AFSS  
Preflight 9 position for the time period from June 8,  
1997, 2234 UTC to June 8, 1997, 2255 UTC.

Agencies Making Transmissions  
Great Falls AFSS, Preflight 9  
Cessna N206EC

Abbreviations  
**GTF**  
**N206EC**

I hereby certify that the following is a true transcription of the recorded conversations pertaining to the subject aircraft accident involving **N206EC**:

William J. Cardin  
Air Traffic Control Specialist  
June 26, 1997

2234  
2235  
2236  
2237  
2238  
2239

2239:16      GTF      i find the **pedal** here good evening **great** falls

2239:17      N206EC      good evening (unintelligible) this is **two** oh **six** echo charlie at glendive  
montana

2239:120	GTF	sure what was the call sign <del>again</del>
2239:22	N206EC	two zero six echo charlie
2239:24	GTF	okay november two zero six echo charlie and you're on the ground where
2239:29	N206EC	in glendive
2239:29	GTF	glendive hows everything in glendive
2239:31	N206EC	well not too bad i see some big black clouds south southwest
2239:35	GTF	yeah yeah (unintelligible) just got just got the hang on just a second
2239:42	N206EC	<del>okay</del>
2239:46	GTF	one of my co workers here has a ranch over by glendive she wants to know if its raining shes hoping for rain
2239:51	N206EC	well uh we all are but none of em are getting any of it
2239:54	GTF	they all are hoping and nobodys getting it huh (laughter) shes nodding yes she understands
2240:00	N206EC	lotta lotta wind right now
2240:01	GTF	uh hub

2240:02	N206EC	(unintelligible) lightening out there to the southwest
2240:04	GTF	yeah we have a convective sigmet for that area where you heading <b>out</b> to and maybe i can help you
2240:08	N206EC	(unintelligible) mccall idaho m y l
2240:10	GTF	m y l um what time you gonna go
2240:13	N206EC	<b>well</b> i was hoping to leave in the next half hour or <b>so</b>
2240:14	GTF	<b>okay</b> you <b>gonna</b> go i f r
2240:17	N206EC	putt putt v f r
2240:18	GTF	you gonnago i f r or v f r
2240:20	N206EC	v f r
2240:21	GTF	v f r okay well i think thats gonna be a pretty tough road lets see we'll put your proposed time here in about thirty minutes <del>from</del> now <b>at</b> two three one zero mccall idaho how you proposing going you heading over <b>down</b> towards uh over towards bozeman and then down uh the valley there over monida <b>pass</b> in in to mccall <del>that</del> <b>way</b>
2240:43	N206EC	<b>well</b> we could do that we were looking <b>at maybe</b> doing a direct route

2240:46 GTF okay well uh vfr not recommended **—across** there and the reason why is some reasons **um** first the flow is out of the west southwest its a its a just a general **ah** upper trough that is moist and unstable very little movement aloft it will continue to be that way for the next several days in **fact** weather advisories we have starting **from** a **ah** oh just **ah** lets see livingston to billings area out towards **ah** shelby and everything west of that line for western montana down into the snake river valley over towards mccall for mountain obscurement with clouds precip mist and fog uh thats evident at this time i believe **thats** the only weather advisory i have for your route of flight and let me go through this and see (unintelligible)

2241:31 N206EC (unintelligible) you have any reports on the weather at mccall

2241:32 GTF you betcha and **ah** let me pull up uh the other activity i **gotta** tell you about

2241:38 N206EC **okay**

2241:38 GTF **ah** convective activity **starts** uh forty east of miles city to sixty west of laramie to twenty northeast of rock springs to twenty west of **ah** riverton **ah** to **fifty ah** southwest **of** livingston **back** to ff i'm **sorry fifty** southwest of miles city back to forty east of livingston that area which includes **ah** your destination there has areas of thunderstorm moving out of the south southeast to the north northeast at fifteen **knots** tops of flight level four five zero had possible up to one inch in diameter **gusty** winds up to **fifty** knots is possible for that area okay going across a look **at** the **radar** lets pull that up and take a look all at that **this** time you're in glendive let me pull up the right one here okay line of activity running north to south of from **um down** around miles city up over glendive up north **ah** to scobey **ah** level areas **of** cell activity levels up to lets say level four level five activity in your area **so** theres a possibility uh that if you run **down** near if you run down towards billings and that area let me pull that up give you an idea of whats going on here billings has a **ah** extended area **ah** that runs **ah** to the northeast of billings **ah** its about uh **fifty** sixty miles out from billings to the northeast **runs down** towards sheridan another line of activity **ah** level four level five in **that** area over to the uh **west** of billings towards livingston **from** the crazies down through big timber **ah** down through uh **gardner** that area **theres** a line of of three or four activity in that area **also** had a mooney that tried to get into the bozeman area **ah** tried to go through the **pass at** livingston was unable tried to go north around the bridgers was unable he's now sitting on the ground at livingston

2242  
2243  
2243:40 N206EC **okay**

2243:40	GTF	uh because uh it was <del>just</del> ah v f r <del>was</del> ah <del>just</del> not possible through the bozeman area <del>at this</del> time checking that enroute ff weather <del>that</del> we have for <del>you</del> ah lets pull up <del>a</del> few things here and give it to you okay there <del>at</del> um <del>best</del> thing i have for closest thing i have right now uh for um ah current weather lets <del>see</del> if uh glendives reporting here automated report <del>at</del> glendive <del>at</del> three five <del>past</del> the hour winds <del>at</del> one <del>six</del> zero one seven <del>gusts</del> two three i can <del>see</del> where you're talking about <del>that</del> winds now
2244:13	N206EC	yup
2244:13	GTF	visibility one zero seven thousand scattered eight thousand five hundred scattered temperature three one altimeter is <del>two</del> <del>niner</del> seven four with no remarks and ah checking the weather i have nothing for mccall but we'll <del>see</del> <del>whats</del> close to there and ah going <del>across</del> ah miles city ah weather is v f r but they're reporting cumulousnimbus had some rain showers here this last hour cumulousnimbus & stance southeast <del>of</del> miles city moving movement unknown towering cumulous distant north through south and theres also rain showers distant southwest and <del>so</del> you can see see mile miles city is <del>just</del> <del>down</del> the road from where you are
2244:58	N206EC	okay -- is that southwest of us
2245:00	GTF	yes it its ah from were you are yes about south southwest yeah
2245:05	N206EC	right there theres <del>a</del> big black cell right now i <del>see</del> lightening flashing through it
2245:08	GTF	oh you can okay if you head over now you're talking about going <del>down</del> towards billings and that way
2245:13	N206EC	if possible we could <del>do</del> that (unintelligible)
2245:15	GTF	okay (unintelligible)
2245:16	N206EC	(unintelligible) around this to the south of it or not

2245:17	GTF	well not to the south of your route you get into the teeth of more activity
2245:20	N206EC	<del>okay</del>
2245:22	GTF	um theres no real ss good way of getting around this either north or south um i'll just give you an idea of of the billings area um four thousand two hundred scattered ceiling six thousand broken cumulousnimbusand ten miles visibility cumulousnimbusentire cumulous south through north theres rain showers distance southeast from billings you get over towards um <b>ah</b> livingston ah we're talkingjust what i described <del>between</del> billings and livingston you got a line of activity that you have to go through at this time if you got to livingston uh they're fairly decent shape at this time ceilingsum well we got uh few clouds at two thousand five hundred ceilings six thousand broken <b>ah</b> one zero thousand overcast <b>ah</b> with no remarks the bozeman area <b>has</b> very low ceilings <del>at</del> this time ceiling two thousand three hundred overcast ten miles visibility remember i just told ya that guy tried to go through the <b>pass</b>
2246:14	N206EC	right
2246:15	GTF	he um he approached the pass from the east and said it looked pretty good he got into it and it <del>just</del> it just fell <del>apart</del> on him
2246:21	N206EC	now which where was his destination
2246:22	<b>GTF</b>	ah he was trying to get into bozeman
2246:24 .	N206EC	okay

2246:25      GTF      and he was unable and tried to go around to the north and was able that way going to the south you got extensive activity ah from that line that is **between** billings and livingston running north to south **down** into uh Cody and further south to towards lander thermopolis and that area all **has** a line of activity **as** up to level four activity at this time and lets **see** what else i got for ya if you **ah** able to get that far you still have southwest montana ah the butte area **has** a few clouds at four thousand ceiling one zero thousand broken no restricted visibility clouds obscuring mountains to the south over the highlands there if you were to go down towards dillon dillon reports now automated report ah ceiling **two** thousand seven hundred overcast ten miles visibility **ah** that area also ah would **ah** would indicate to me where that that the upper mountains are obscured in the dillon area

2247:18      N206EC      (unintelligible)i thought id dillon (unintelligible) almost due west of dillon

2247:21      GTF      **yeah**

2247:22      N206EC      (unintelligible) mountains (unintelligible)

2247:22      GTF      if you go almost due west you got the bitterroots there and ah ah looking at this weather out **of** dillon i'm i'm almost positive they would be obscured at **this** time

2247:30      N206EC      and the salmon river canyon probably would be (unintelligible)

2247:32      GTF      yeah it would be too looking at salmon here its um not reporting at this time and

2247:38      N206EC      my route would take me right over dillon right over salmon

2247:40      GTF      yeah and that area ah **again** its in the area of mountain obscurement and looking at both of the ah bozeman area weather looking at dillon weather those mountains **ah** are are more likely are obscured at this time

2247:50      N206EC      **okay**

2247:53      GTF      so v f r still not recommended in that area and its just not gonna to go away either and i haven't have any good news for ya **down** the road looking

2248:00      N206EC      so tomorrow looks bad

2248:01      GTF      yeah tomorrow it sure **does** looking **at** ah up through ah **noon** tomorrow low pressure sitting on the **surface** uh just north of sheridan between sheridan and billings ah **stationary** front running from billings right up uh over uh where you are there at glendive another stationary front running towards the park into the northwest corner of uh idaho into the **central** uh nevada ah they're still gonna have that upper trough dominating shower activity extensive through central and eastern **part** of the state only thing might have a little prievie reprieve from us is just be the uh along that western border around kalispell and missoula but um it certainly looks like the uh central and eastern **part of** montana is gonna be under the influence ah into tomorrow tomorrow night into tuesday no change what **so** ever no change and ah looking in on tuesday morning ah still looking **at** ah **stationary** front running from glasgow **down** towards butte ah low pressure **fall off** a little bit to the south **of** us extensive shower activity continuing through most all of montana into tuesday no improvement we need some upper flow and we just don't have it

2249  
2249:08      N206EC      yeah its getting some big thunder here right now (unintelligible)

2249:10      GTF      yeah

2249:11      N206EC      guess we might get a little bit of rain i dont know (laughter)

2249:12      GTF      well okay i'll tell ya **that** there uh there is a thunderstorm uh locally anyway (laughter) **so**

2249:18      N206EC      (unintelligible) doesn't look very good for us

2249:19      GTF      yeah it sure doesn't yeah it ah you you might be able to circumnavigate some of **that** stuff but you get **down** towards livingston and this person tried to go around **that** to the north which **ah** would be the most favorable of the of the **options** and that he wasnt able tried to the **pass** going to the south of that is **just** ah you're ah right in the teeth of everything now



2249:40 N206EC okay

2249:41 GTF so i'm sorry i don't have any good news for ya

2249:44 N206EC okay sir thank you very much

2249:45 GTF you bet thank you

2250

2251

2252

2253

2254

2255

End of Transcript