



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	HONOLULU, Hawaii	<b>Accident Number:</b>	LAX92LA337
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	August 8, 1992, 02:12 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N26070
<b>Aircraft:</b>	CESSNA 310M	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	2 Fatal
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

THE FLT DEPARTED HONOLULU FOR A LOCAL VFR FLT & WAS RECEIVING RADAR ADVISORIES. THE FLT CLIMBED TO 1,500 FEET MSL. RADAR DATA SHOWED THAT AFTER TAKEOFF, THE ACFT FLEW IN A SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION ALONG THE COAST & TURNED EAST WHEN IT WAS ABEAM DIAMOND HEAD. UPON APPROACHING KOKO HEAD, THE ACFT ENTERED A 450 DEGREE TURN TO A SOUTHERLY HEADING. WHILE IN THE TURN THE ACFT BEGAN A DESCENT, THEN DISAPPEARED FROM THE RADAR SCOPE AT ABOUT 700 FT MSL. THE ACFT HAD BEEN FLYING FOR 12 MIN. GROUND WITNESSES REPORTED HEARING THE ACFT FLY OVER THEIR HOMES BEFORE IT CRASHED OFF-SHORE IN OCEAN WATERS. THUNDERSTORMS WITH LIGHTNING WAS REPORTED NEAR THE ACDNT AREA. SEVERAL ACFT FLIGHTCREWS CONFIRMED THE THUNDERSTORMS & LIGHTNING. U.S. NAVY RADAR DISPLAY VIDEO PHOTOCOPIES SHOWED THE PRESENCE OF THUNDERSTORMS IN THE ACDNT AREA. NO RECORD WAS FOUND OF THE PILOT RECEIVING A WX BRIEFING BEFORE DEPARTING ON THE ACDNT FLT. SEARCH & RESCUE PERSONNEL RECOVERED ONLY 2 ACFT SEATS.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: LOSS OF AIRCRAFT CONTROL FOR AN UNDETERMINED REASON AFTER THE PILOT TOOK OFF AT NIGHT AND FLEW THE AIRCRAFT INTO THE AREA OF A THUNDERSTORM AND LIGHTNING.

## Findings

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Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER

Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. PREFLIGHT BRIEFING SERVICE - NOT USED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT
3. WEATHER CONDITION - THUNDERSTORM
4. WEATHER CONDITION - LIGHTNING
5. VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

6. (C) REASON FOR OCCURRENCE UNDETERMINED

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Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

7. TERRAIN CONDITION - WATER

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial; Flight instructor	<b>Age:</b>	33, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 1 Valid Medical-w/ waivers/lim	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	March 24, 1992
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	1414 hours (Total, all aircraft), 144 hours (Total, this make and model), 1358 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 100 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 41 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	CESSNA	<b>Registration:</b>	N26070
<b>Model/Series:</b>	310M 310M	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	310M0025
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Retractable - Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	5
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	January 10, 1992 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	4990 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	118 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	2 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	7047 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	CONTINENTAL
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	IO-470-D
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	RICHARD FAST & CAROL READ	<b>Rated Power:</b>	265 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	DAVIDSON, STEVEN T.	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>		<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Instrument (IMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Night/dark
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>		<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>		<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Unknown	<b>Visibility</b>	1 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Overcast / 1000 ft AGL	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	/	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	0°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>		<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	26°C / 21°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	Heavy - Showers - Rain		
<b>Departure Point:</b>		<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>		<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	Traffic advisory
<b>Departure Time:</b>	02:04 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class E

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	
<b>Runway Used:</b>	0	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>		<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	None

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	On-ground
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	On-ground
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	2 Fatal	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	21.350238,-157.880065(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Llorente, A.
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	ASI RICHARD WRIGHT; HONOLULU , HI
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	May 3, 1993
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=27720">https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=27720</a>

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