



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	KIRKSVILLE, Missouri	<b>Accident Number:</b>	MKC85LA021
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	November 17, 1984, 21:45 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N3955H
<b>Aircraft:</b>	MOONEY M20J	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

ACCORDING TO THE PLT, DURING A LOCALIZER APCH IMPACT WITH AN OBJECT WAS HEARD AND THE ACFT YAWED LEFT. THE PLT DID NOT SEE WHAT THE ACFT HIT BUT STATED THAT HE BELIEVED THE ACFT STRUCK A BIRD. USING A FLASHLIGHT HE ATTEMPTED TO INSPECT THE ACFT IN ORDER TO ASSESS THE DAMAGE. WHILE LOOKING OUTSIDE THE COCKPIT, THE PLT FAILED TO MAINTAIN THE PROPER ALT AND DESCENDED COLLIDING WITH A TREE. AFTER FLYING INTO THE TREE THE PLT CONTINUED THE APCH AND LANDED SAFELY.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

### Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - IAF TO FAF/OUTER MARKER (IFR)

#### Findings

1. (C) PROPER ALTITUDE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) DIVERTED ATTENTION - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. OBJECT - TREE(S)



## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial; Flight instructor	<b>Age:</b>	45, 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 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	February 14, 1984
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	Yes	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	15395 hours (Total, all aircraft), 50 hours (Total, this make and model), 15260 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 334 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	MOONEY	<b>Registration:</b>	N3955H
<b>Model/Series:</b>	M20J M20J	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	24-0992
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Retractable - Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	June 7, 1984 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2740 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	57 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	601 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	LYCOMING
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	IO-360-A3B6D
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	KEITH LINDELL	<b>Rated Power:</b>	200 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>		<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>	IRK ,966 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>	20:45 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Unknown	<b>Visibility</b>	1 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	300 ft AGL	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	4 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	110°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>		<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	0°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	Moderate - None - Snow		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	BRUSH , CO (7V5)	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	IFR
<b>Destination:</b>		<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	IFR
<b>Departure Time:</b>	18:15 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class E

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	KIRKSVILLE IRK	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	966 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	
<b>Runway Used:</b>	35	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	Localizer only
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	6004 ft / 100 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	None

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	40.189582,-92.569694(est)

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Johnson, Robert

**Additional Participating Persons:**

**Original Publish Date:**

**Last Revision Date:**

**Investigation Class:** [Class](#)

**Note:**

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=33889>

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