

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: HOMER, Alaska Accident Number: ANC91FA042

Date & Time: March 29, 1991, 17:54 Local Registration: N6216U

Aircraft: CESSNA 206 Aircraft Damage: Destroyed

Defining Event: 4 Fatal

Flight Conducted Under: Part 135: Air taxi & commuter - Non-scheduled

Analysis

THE PLT TOOK OFF APRX 15 MI NORTHEAST OF THE HOMER ARPT. AFTER TAKEOFF, HE CONTACTED THE HOMER TOWER & INQUIRED ABOUT THE WX AT HOMER. HE WAS ADVISED THAT VFR CONDITIONS PREVAILED AT THE ARPT, BUT THAT THERE WAS SNOW SHOWERS OF UNKNOWN INTENSITY & RESTRICTED VISIBILITY NORTH & EAST OF THE ARPT. THE PLT ELECTED TO MAKE A STRAIGHT-IN APCH TO RWY 21. WHILE INBOUND, HE DISCUSSED HIS RELATIVE POSITION WITH THE PLT OF ANOTHER ACFT, WHO WAS APCHG TO LAND ON RWY 3 AT HOMER. THE PLT (OF N6216U) RPRTD TURNING BACK OUTBOUND (AS IF TO AVOID A TRAFFIC CONFLICT). SOON THEREAFTER, AN ELT SIGNAL WAS TRANSMITTED. AN INVESTIGATION REVEALED THAT THE ACFT CRASHED IN A TIDAL BASIN. WRECKAGE WAS FOUND IN SHALLOW WATER OVER AN AREA OF ABOUT 1/2 MI LONG BY 200 FT WIDE. NO PREIMPACT PART FAILURE OR MALFUNCTION WAS FOUND DURING THE INVESTIGATION.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: VFR FLIGHT BY THE PILOT INTO INSTRUMENT METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS (IMC), AND HIS FAILURE TO MAINTAIN SUFFICIENT ALTITUDE, WHILE MANEUVERING OVER WATER. FACTORS RELATED TO THE ACCIDENT WERE: THE SNOW SHOWER AND PROBABLE WHITEOUT CONDITIONS.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER

Phase of Operation: APPROACH

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - SNOW

2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - WHITEOUT

3. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - CONTINUED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

4. TERRAIN CONDITION - WATER

5. (C) PROPER ALTITUDE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Commercial	Age:	37,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical-no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	December 3, 1990
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	4499 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1725 hours (Total, this make and model), 4300 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 214 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 65 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N6216U
Model/Series:	206 206	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	U20605390
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	March 21, 1991 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3600 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	3 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	6403 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520
Registered Owner:	HOMER AIR	Rated Power:	300 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand air taxi (135)
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

meteorological informati			
Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument (IMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	HOM ,78 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	18:00 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	40°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown	Visibility	
Lowest Ceiling:	Unknown	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	210°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-3°C / -4°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	N/A - Blowing - Snow		
Departure Point:	BRADLEY LAKE , AK (NONE)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Company VFR
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	17:45 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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Airport Information

Airport:	HOMER HOM	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	78 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	21	IFR Approach:	
Runway Length/Width:	7401 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	3 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	4 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	59.399188,-151.320297(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Michelangelo, James

Additional Participating
Persons:

Original Publish Date: July 10, 1992

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: Class

Note:

Investigation Docket: https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=5479

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, "accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person" (Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB's statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 United States Code section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 United States Code section 1154(b) is available here.

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