

Why jet didn't get weather report probed

WASHINGTON (AP) — The National Transportation Safety Board is still trying to determine why air traffic controllers did not relay a fresh weather forecast to the pilot of a Delta Air Lines plane that crashed in Dallas on Aug. 2.

The jumbo jet, carrying 163 people, crashed during a heavy thunderstorm, killing 139 passengers and one person on the ground.

Safety board member Patrick Burley, who is heading the probe, said weather "is very much involved in the accident," but investigators still had not determined whether the phenomenon of wind shear was a factor in the crash. "We're certainly exploring it," he said.

"There is an indication of a weather forecast being delivered to the controllers some 10 minutes before the accident, and that was not passed along," said Burley, who appeared Sunday on the CBS show "Face the Nation."

"We are looking into whether it was required to be passed, and what the implications of that might have been."

It appears that both controllers involved and the pilots involved in this accident were not concerned about the immediate conditions," he added.

NTSB investigators at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport said last week that tower con-

trollers were advised about 15 minutes before the crash that cumulo nimbus clouds had formed north of the airport. Such clouds often are associated with thunderstorms which could contain violent wind shears.

The latest weather forecast the pilot had received before the crash was on four oct, the investigators said.

The controllers did describe actual weather conditions at the north end of the airport, where they they had the eyes of a shower with variable winds.

The pilot responded that he was "not here in the rain. Pairs good." Moments later, the plane crashed.

Worst air tragedy at Tenerife in 1977

The Associated Press

Here is a list of the worst commercial aviation disasters worldwide.

1. March 1977: 582 killed in a collision of two Boeing 747s operated by Pan Am and KLM at the airport on Tenerife in Spain's Canary Islands.

2. March 1974: 364 killed in the worst single-plane accident when a Turkish DC-10 crashed 26 miles northeast of Paris.

3. June 11, 1960: 239 killed when an Air India Boeing 747 crashed off the coast of Ireland, apparently because of an explosion.

4. Aug. 28, 1980: 301 killed in a ferry emergency landing of a Saudi Arabian L-1011 jet at the airport in the bank capital of Riyadh.

5. May 25, 1971: 271 killed when an American Airlines DC-10 crashed on landing in Chicago.

6. Sept. 1, 1983: 289 killed when a Korean Air Lines 747 was shot down by a Soviet fighter after flying through Soviet airspace near Sakhalin Island.

7. November 1975: 273 killed when an Air New Zealand DC-10 taking tourists to the South Pole struck a

mountain in Antarctica.

8. Jan. 1, 1978: 213 killed when an Air India 747 on route to the Middle East kingdom of Dubai crashed less than two minutes after taking off from Bombay.

9. December 1976: 161 killed when a chartered Dutch DC-8 enroute Indonesia. Passengers from Saudi Arabia, went down in Sri Lanka.

10. August 1975: 188 killed when a chartered Moroccan Boeing 707 crashed near Agadir, Morocco.

11. November 1978: 183 killed when a chartered Indonesian Airlines DC-8 crashed short of an airport in Colombo, Sri Lanka. On Nov. 27, 1980, 87 people were killed when an Avianca Boeing 747 crashed near Madrid's Barajas airport.

12. December 1981: 136 killed when a chartered Yugoslavian Ikarus A67P DC-8 slammed into a fog-shrouded mountain near Aleria, Algeria.

These three crashes each killed 174 people. A Soviet Aeroflot crash near Moscow in October 1972, the collision of a British Airways Trident and a Yugoslav DC-8 near Zagreb, Yugoslavia, in September 1976, and the crash of a Canadian Boeing 747 at Mexico's Xela airport in January 1971.

Round-up

Ferry boat collide
WEST YANKEE, British Columbia — Rescuers were searching here Sunday for a missing child after the British Columbia ferry Queen of Cowichan collided with a cabin cruiser near the Horseshoe Bay terminal.

Four adults wearing night clothing were rescued — but a 1-year-old and two were taken aboard the ferry and treated by a doctor for hypothermia.

The doctor was a passenger on the ferry bound for Horseshoe Bay from Nanaimo.

A Coast Guard hovercraft, tug, pleasure craft, divers and a helicopter were looking for the missing person.

The cabin cruiser sank.

Two planes collide
QUINLAN, Texas — Two private planes apparently collided in flight over northeastern Texas today, killing at least three people, officials said.

One of the planes managed to land, and its two occupants escaped injury, officials said. The other plane crashed near Lake Tawakoni about 10 a.m., and that county sheriff's dispatcher Sherry Perry said.

The bodies of three victims were taken to a general hospital, she said. Brown Body, the owner of the property where the plane crashed, said he was outside during trash when he heard the explosion, aircraft fly over.

"I thought it was a helicopter and then it went boom," Body said.

Hundreds evacuate
VALENTINE, Ala. — Hundreds of people were evacuated from three schools in northeastern Alabama today after a freight train carrying toxic substances derailed and spewed fire, releasing clouds of possibly poisonous smoke into the schools, authorities said.

U.S. Highway 60 also was closed as a precaution after 22 railroad cars derailed and burned between Mackberry and Valentine, about 30 miles northeast of Enterprise, Mobile County Sheriff's Lt. Clark Brown said. Valentine and Mackberry are located five miles apart.

There were no immediate reports of injuries.

Cause of the derailment was undetermined.

Valentine residents were taken to Truxton, about 10 miles farther northwest, and there they and Truxton residents were evacuated to Trach

Government loses suit
BOYTON — A federal judge today ordered the government to pay \$1.2 million to the family of a letterman who was lost at sea after the National Weather Service failed to predict a fierce storm.

The relative, Judge Joseph Tamm awarded them \$1.2 million damages, ruling that the agency was liable for the 1966 death because it failed to repair a broken weather buoy that could have helped predict the storm.

Gary Brown, 35, of Plymouth, David Berry, 28, of Marblehead, and Robert Thayer, 22, of Hamilton dist

The Daily News, Longview, Wash., Monday, August 12, 1985 A3

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