

DETACHMENT 3
24th Weather Squadron
Nellis Air Force Base
Las Vegas, Nevada

22 November 1955

SUBJECT: Weather for Aircraft Accident

TO: Director
Flying Safety Research
Norton Air Force Base
San Bernadino, Calif.

1. The synoptic situation on 17 November 1955 at the approximate time of the subject accident was as follows:

- a. The surface chart showed an occluded front extending south-westward out of a low centered over Nellis AFB, Nevada. This frontal system joined a cold front which extended westward into the Pacific and then into a deep low in the Gulf of Alaska. With this frontal system there was an extended weather pattern with considerable snow to the North.
- b. The 500 mb. pattern showed a deep trough to the west of the station, associated with the low cell and frontal system.

2. The weather observations from Nellis AFB, McCarran Field, Nev., Tonopah, Nev. and Daggett, Calif. are included as an inclosure.

3. The upper winds for this immediate area are included as an inclosure.

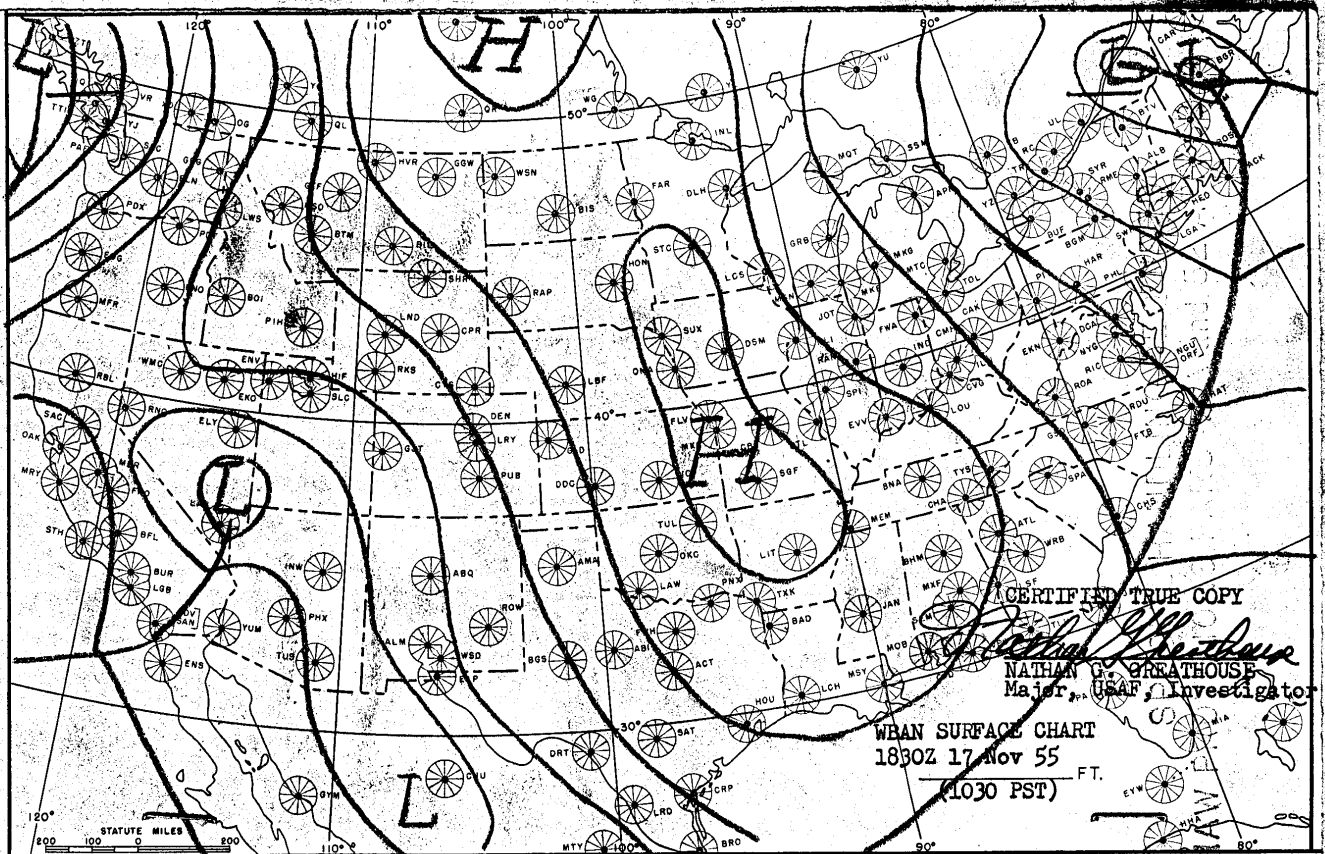
4. From personal observation throughout the day, and in particular from 0700P to 1100P the clouds were topping Charleston Peak all during this period. Snow showers were observed intermittently in the immediate area of the crash site. These observations may be evaluated by my experience level. I have been flying for thirteen years. I have been forecasting for six years, and have a Masters' Degree in Meteorology. In my opinion any aircraft flying from 9000 to 13000 MSL in the vicinity of Charleston Peak, would have been in snow showers and clouds during this period.

2 Incl. s/t
1 Sfc Chart (copy)
1 Wea Observations

WILLIAM L. DOTSON
Major, USAF
Detachment Commander

Certified true copy
2-14
Nathan Weatherhouse
Major USAF

C O P Y



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Lambert Conformal
Standard Parallels 30° N and 30° S

THE FOLLOWING IS WEATHER FOR AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT OCCURING 17 NOV 1955

LSV -- NELLIS AFB NEV

1530Z E600150035 076/49/24✓10/ 307 1550
1630Z E700180035 078/52/28✓5
1730Z E800160035 084/52/25C
1830Z E800160025 087/52/26✓12/ 212 157X 46

LAS -- MCCARRAN FIELD LAS VEGAS NEVADA

1530Z MISSING
1630Z E600150015 078/52/33↑16/977/RADAT 97374 063
1730Z MISSING
1830Z E60020R -- 102/53/34↑11/983/ MTNS OBSCD S-W-N RB00

TPH -- TONOPAH NEVADA

1530Z 22-0E350100030 085/28/22↓5/978/ SPB53E17
1630Z 300E500100030 091/33/18↓4/981/ SWU N SE S
1730Z 250E400100030 097/33/17↓5/982/ SWU N E S
1830Z 200E300600110025 103/35/19C/985/ SWU NSW 220 25 247 43

DAG -- DAGGETT CALIFORNIA

1530Z MISSING
1630Z E60015 112/54/35→12/986
1730Z MISSING
1830Z E60015 112/57/34→17/988 210 41

UPPER WINDS

LAS

171710Z
15952 2119 42120 2215 62313 2413 82515 2525 02432 22637
42542 62542 82546

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED

0910 ASW PROVISIONS PARACHUTEN 02 AFR 62-14