

CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD

AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT REPORT

ADOPTED: June 11, 1964RELEASED: June 17, 1964

CONTINENTAL AIR LINES, INC.
VICKERS VISCOUNT 812, N242V
MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI
JANUARY 29, 1963

SYNOPSIS

Continental Air Lines Flight 290, a Viscount 812, N242V, a regularly scheduled flight from Midland, Texas, crashed at the Kansas City Municipal Airport, Kansas City, Missouri, at 2244 c.s.t., January 29, 1963. All the occupants, three crew members and five passengers, received fatal injuries and the aircraft was destroyed by impact and subsequent fire.

After making a straight-in approach to land on runway 18, in visual flight conditions, the aircraft continued to fly over the runway in a nose-up attitude without touching down. Near the south end of the runway, from an altitude of approximately 90 feet, the aircraft nosed over sharply, wings level, and dived into the ground. The main wreckage came to rest 680 feet beyond the end of the runway.

The Board determines that the probable cause of this accident was an undetected accretion of ice on the horizontal stabilizer which, in conjunction with a specific airspeed and aircraft configuration, caused a loss of pitch control.

Investigation

Continental Air Lines Flight 290 (CAL 290) a Vickers Viscount 812 aircraft, N242V, crashed following an approach to landing at Kansas City Municipal Airport, Kansas City, Missouri. The accident occurred at 2244 1/ January 29, 1963. All the occupants, three crew members and five passengers, were fatally injured and the aircraft was destroyed by impact and subsequent fire.

The crew originated and flew CAL Flight 281 from Dallas to Midland, Texas, with an intermediate stop at Fort Worth. A Federal Aviation Agency operations inspector conducted an en route flight check during this trip and stated that the flight was normal and routine. The crew transferred to N242V and originated CAL Flight 290 from Midland, Texas.

Continental Air Lines Flight 290 was a regularly scheduled operation between Midland, Texas, and Kansas City, Missouri, with intermediate stops at Lubbock and Wichita Falls, Texas, and Lawton, Oklahoma City, and Tulsa, Oklahoma.

1/ All times herein are central standard time based on the 24-hour clock, unless otherwise identified.