

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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(202) 426-8787

ISSUED: May 6, 1976

Forwarded to:

Honorable John L. McLucas
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
Washington, D. C. 20591

SAFETY RECOMMENDATION(S)

A-76-45 through 50

The National Transportation Safety Board is concerned about the number of general aviation accidents which occur during the takeoff phase of flight, and the relationship of preflight preparation to these accidents. As a result, the Safety Board has conducted a study, "U.S. General Aviation Takeoff Accidents - The Role of Preflight Preparation,"¹ which identifies and assesses factors that most often affect takeoff accidents. The study analyzes several areas in which remedial action should be taken in order to reduce the number of takeoff accidents occurring annually.

The Safety Board examined the data for general aviation takeoff accidents for 1970 through 1974, and studied in-depth those that occurred during 1974. Accident files were then reexamined to determine the relationship between preflight preparation and the causes and factors of the accidents.

The Safety Board believes that preflight preparation and the takeoff portion of a flight must be emphasized continually to the aviation public.

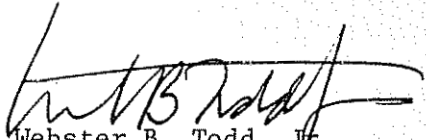
Accordingly, the National Transportation Safety Board recommends that the Federal Aviation Administration:

- (1) Through its Accident Prevention Program stress the importance of the elements of good preflight planning and its role in the safety of flight. (Class II - Priority Followup)
- (2) Amend 14 CFR 141 Appendix A, 14 CFR 61.105 and 14 CFR 61.107 to define the specific elements of preflight operations and to require a separate block of ground and flight training for this subject. (Class III-Longer-Term Followup)

¹/ National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Special Study No. 76-2.

- (3) Amend 14 CFR 61.57(b) (2) to specify that the person administering a biennial flight review must ascertain that the applicant understands the elements required for a complete preflight preparation. (Class III-Longer-Term Followup)
- (4) Revise Advisory Circular 61-66, Annual Pilot-in-Command Proficiency Checks, to include an outline of subjects to be included in the preflight planning and preparation phase. (Class III-Longer-Term Followup)
- (5) Issue an Advisory Circular discussing the elements of thorough preflight preparation and the potential dangers associated with each element. (Class III-Longer-Term Followup)
- (6) Revise Advisory Circular 61-21, Flight Training Handbook, to provide a comprehensive description of the information which would be included under the subtopic "Preflight Operations." (Class III-Longer-Term Followup)

TODD, Chairman, McADAMS, THAYER, BURGESS, and HALEY, Members, concurred in the above recommendations.


By: Webster B. Todd, Jr.
Chairman

THIS RECOMMENDATION WILL BE RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC ON THE ISSUE DATE SHOWN ABOVE. NO PUBLIC DISSEMINATION OF THIS DOCUMENT SHOULD BE MADE PRIOR TO THAT DATE.