



AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

				Reference:	CA18/2/3/8076	
Aircraft Registration	ZS-OVC	Date of Accident	27 February 2006		Time of Accident	1130Z
Type of Aircraft	Mooney M20R		Type of Operation		Private	
Pilot-in-command Licence Type		Private	Age	63	Licence Valid	Yes
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience		Total Flying Hours	1874.3		Hours on Type	1280.4
Last point of departure		Worcester Aerodrome (FAWC)				
Next point of intended landing		Rietfontein farm near Nylstroom				
Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (GPS readings if possible)						
Next to a gravel road in the Platinum Mine Field area. GPS position: S 26° 42.06' E 027° 26.16'						
Meteorological Information		Adverse Weather conditions: BKN cloud at 200ft AGL with light rain. Wind: 020°/3kt; Clouds: 8/8; Temperature: 18°C; Dew point: 16°C				
Number of people on board	1+1	No. of people injured	0	No. of people killed	2	
Synopsis						
<p>On 24 February 2006, the pilot accompanied by a passenger (his wife) departed from a farm, Rietfontein near Nylstroom to Stellenbosch to visit family members and also to celebrate his wife's forthcoming birthday anniversary.</p> <p>On 25 February 2006, the pilot accompanied by his wife and two children, departed from Stellenbosch and landed at Worcester Aerodrome to spend the rest of the week-end on a farm near Worcester with friends. After landing at Worcester at approximately 1600Z, the pilot refuelled the aircraft to full capacity of 90 US Galls (89 US useable Galls) and parked the aircraft inside a hangar.</p> <p>On 27 February 2006, the pilot accompanied by his wife, filed a VFR flight plan from Worcester Aerodrome back to Rietfontein farm near Nylstroom for FL095 and approximately 4.10 flying hours. They departed from Worcester at approximately 0730Z en route directly over Carnavon (FACN) then Kimberley (FAKM). During the flight at approximately 0915Z, the pilot requested Johannesburg Central on radio frequency 120.3MHz to descent to FL075 due to cloud whereby Johannesburg Central approved this and confirmed that there is no reported traffic at FL075 in the Kimberley TMA 1014. The pilot failed to respond to further calls from Johannesburg Central who then requested another aircraft, ZS-MVS to advise ZS-OVC to contact Johannesburg Information on radio frequency 119.5 MHz. The pilot of ZS-MVS reported to Johannesburg Central approximately one minute later that ZS-OVC "Got the message loud and clear". The pilot of ZS-OVC nevertheless failed to contact Johannesburg Information.</p> <p>According to an eyewitness at the Platinum mine office near Marikana in the North-West, he heard and saw the aircraft approaching the mine offices from the south east and flying past at high speed. The aircraft disappeared from his view then heard and saw it again approaching the mine offices from the north east. The aircraft disappeared again from his sight but he could still hear the tone of the engine which sounded normal. The aircraft reappeared for the third time travelling from the south east and narrowly missed some high tension wires nearby. The aircraft continued flying very low at a high speed in a north-westerly direction, made a turn to the right and almost immediately dived into the ground. The witness further stated that he rushed to the scene and attempted to gain access to the cockpit as he was concerned that the aircraft might start burning as there was a strong smell of fuel.</p> <p>The aircraft was extensively damaged and the occupants fatally injured.</p> <p>The last MPI Inspection prior to the accident was certified on 09 May 2005 at 930.6 Airframe hours. Since the inspection was certified the aircraft had flown a further 80.4 hours. The Aircraft Maintenance Organisation AMO 196 that had certified the last MPI inspection prior to the accident was in possession of a valid AMO approval certificate.</p>						
Probable Cause						
The pilot was on a VFR flight when he entered IMC conditions en-route to his destination and the aircraft impacted the ground.						
IARC Date			Release Date			