

National Transportation Safety Board

Re: Plane crash into KCBD tower

Feb 4, 2015

I was making a phone call in the lobby, the only room in the station with a window, which is actually the glass entrance facing the south.

I heard a piercing noise like something was falling. I wasn't thinking about a plane. I had no idea what it was. I was more shocked by an extremely bright light shining into the lobby for 2 or 3 seconds, then it flashed to the east. Then I heard what sounded like a loud explosion. The lights flickered a little, then went out completely. Then I heard a brief series of loud rumbles... and the ground shook. Then, it was totally dark and quiet.

I went out the front door expecting to smell smoke, but I didn't.

I looked up at the tower and I couldn't see much of it because it was too foggy up there. Then I looked to the East of the station and noticed the tower had fallen by the dumpsters. There were cables thrown all over the parking lot. I wanted to move my car, but didn't because I was concerned about hot wires on the ground.

Karin McCay

Anchor/Reporter, KCBD-TV

Lubbock, Texas

Steve Holland / LFR 00749

7:31 call of report of plane into an antenna here at 3600 Ave A
23 units responded, did find that a single engine plane, & it
was a piper malibu had struck the antenna here at KCBP &
taken off about the top $\frac{2}{3}$ of the tower, w/ it took down most
of the guide wires; there's a lot of electrical lines down in
the area, ~~not~~

1:30 at this time we have no idea. The NTSB is on the way. LFR
is setting up a mobile operations command post over here east of
KCBP.

2:40 I haven't myself, I've been here for nearly 26-yers; we've had
some small plane crashes, but in my experience it's the 1st time
we've had a plane hit a TV station's antenna.

Jacob Escobedo / neighbor 00638

1:10 The airplane just came up above my tree branch; the wings fell
off & then it hit the ground & exploded like twice & the 2nd
explosion it hit the wire to NBC's tower & it just knocked
it down.

1:36 it was just crazy, I've never seen anything like that before & I
was just kind of nervous like what should I do.

1:52 my heart stopped that's what I think, my heart stopped
it was insane.

1:31 I ain't ever seen this before it's crazy man.

Carlos Garcia 00639

1:12 me & my friend were outside talking & out of now where you just
hear an airplane coming down just like in a movie; it was like
tree level to the house we're at we saw it coming down toward the

131 Z aint ever seen this before it's crazy man.

Carlos Garcia 06639

112 me & my friend were outside talking & out of no where just & hear an airplane coming down just like in a movie; it was like tree level to the house were at we saw it coming down toward the antenna & it exploded, the 2 wings came off, the tail it hit the ground & hit the wires. ~~the~~ it exploded once & 5 min later it ~~exploded~~ exploded again.

113 Z was speechless, we & him were speechless or weren't saying nothing after that.

257 Z thought the tower was going to fall on our house & everything

John Houston: 06917

220 Z knew right away that it wasn't just collapsed b/c of the wind or anything like that. Z knew something was off b/c it threw sparks.

235 usually ice & wind could take them down, but in this case Z knew it was something different.

25 1:10 200 ft is sandy w/ no guide wires so yes with 250 ft radius of tower it's pretty dangerous.

06915 - Plane

00709 - Tower