



The Aviation Safety Network

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Accident

Status:

languages:

Date: 01 DEC 1981

Time: 08:53

 Type: [McDonnell Douglas DC-9-81](#)

 Operator: [Inex Adria Aviopromet](#)

Registration: YU-ANA

C/n / msn: 48047/998

First flight: 1981

Engines: 2 Pratt & Whitney JT8D-200

Crew: Fatalities: 7 / Occupants: 7

Passengers: Fatalities: 173 / Occupants: 173

Total: Fatalities: 180 / Occupants: 180

Airplane damage: Written off

Location: Mont San-Pietro (France)

Phase: En route

Nature: Int'l Non Scheduled Passenger

 Departure airport: [Ljubljana-Brunik Airport \(LJU/LJLJ\)](#), Slovenia

 Destination airport: [Ajaccio-Campo Dell'Oro Airport \(AJA/LFKJ\)](#), France

Narrative:

The aircraft was on a flight from Ljubljana to Ajaccio and entered a holding pattern. The aircraft descended through the minimum holding altitude of 6800 feet and collided near the top of the Mt. San-Pietro (4477 feet high).

Factor in the accident was the imprecise language used by the DC-9 crew and the air traffic controller. The DC-9 was flying a holding pattern to lose altitude, but the controller believed the aircraft was going to make a direct descent to begin the final approach.

After several aural GPWS warnings (starting 13 seconds before impact) the crew increased engine thrust relatively slowly and pulled up too late to prevent the accident.

Events:

[Flightcrew - Language/communication problems \(also ATC\)](#)
[Result - CFIT - Hill, mountain](#)

Sources:

Aviation Week & Space Technology 27.02.84(34) + Flight International 12.12.1981 (1736)
[Sample newspaper article from Newspaperarchive.com](#)

Statistics

 2nd loss of a MD-80

The worst accident involving a MD-80 (at the time)

The worst accident involving a MD-80 (currently)
2nd worst accident in France (at the time)
2nd worst accident in France (currently)

» [figures explained](#)

Photos



This information is not presented as the Flight Safety Foundation or the Aviation Safety Network's opinion as to the cause of the accident. It is preliminary and is based on the facts as they are known at this time.

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