

Larry,

The believe that the plane in which D. Hunt was killed was sabotaged in advance of takeoff requires believing rather much, based on the most recent stories you sent. There is that much human error, I think, byt too many people.

Weather conditions present less of a problem, but I believe that knwing more than two hours in advance that the ceiling would be that low would not have been expectable. Flight time alone was two hours, Toying with devices takes some time and access without detection.

How could anyone know that O'Hare would have been locked in on that flight to Midway and have remained silent on finding it too low? It did-381 feet 1 1/2 naut miles from Midway. Or that there would be an Aero Commander too close in front? Or that the tower would delay too long in directing avoidance to 553?

I addresses some of these things earlier, conjecturally, from my own passneger experience. I think that an air speed of 120 mph is too slow for the kind of maneuver recommended or ordered-almost any maneuver in a jet, which has no props to bite into the air. I am reasonable certain both elevation and speed precluded a safe turn and rise as described -too low, too slow. That speed is ~~virtually~~ virtually touchdown speed. The plane was not more than 45 seconds from touchdown.

So, it would seem that someone had to have expected two towers both to goof. Isn't that asking a bit much? Now, if the ceiling had been a little higher, the pilot would have seen soon enough to do things on his own. When he broke through he was only 100 feet above the point reported by O'Hare's radar, ^{and} ~~ex~~ but instants before ^{landing} ~~that point~~. No reaction time if there was space.

To a degree overcast could have been known earlier in the day, but enough to depend upon? One of the things I'm wondering about is the lack of screaming about an airport in a densely-populated area being allowed to operate at all with a 500' ceiling and without available and really necessary modern equipment. (Height radar is so old that Oswald operated it in the Marines 15 years ago.)

HW 3/17/73