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## Kennedy Plane 'Too Low'

BOSTON — (UPI) — State aviation officials said yesterday that the plane carrying Sen. Edward M. Kennedy to the Democratic State convention June 19 crashed apparently because it was flying too low.

The Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission said the plane, which killed two persons, apparently crashed because it was flying "at altitudes lower than those required for safe clearance of high terrain in the vicinity."

The commission, in a five-page preliminary report, said "there is no reason to believe that there was anything out of the ordinary in connection with the operation of the airplane, its engines, or any of its navigational or communications equipment."

The plane crashed in a Southampton apple orchard 3.3 miles short of its assigned runway at the Westfield airport, killing the pilot and a Kennedy aide, and injuring Kennedy, Sen. Birch Bayh, Democrat of Indiana, and Mrs. Bayh.

Kennedy suffered a broken back but the Bayhs were less seriously hurt. Killed were Edwin T. Zimny of Lawrence, the pilot, and Edward Moss of Andover, Kennedy's aide.

"It is our opinion . . . that the most probable cause of the accident was that the airplane was flown, during an ADF (automatic direction finder) approach to the West-

field airport, at altitudes lower than those required for safe clearance of high terrain in the vicinity," the report said.

The report said it was possible but unlikely that the twin engine plane experienced "partial or complete power failure" which resulted in a flight path not completely under the control of the pilot.