



## N9253M Preliminary Accident Report

Published 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023

<b>Location</b>	<b>Accident number</b>
Waters North of Main Land Exuma, Bahamas (23°56N 075°55.3W)	OCC – 2023/0023
<b>Occurrence Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Registration</b>
9 <sup>th</sup> June 2023 11:09 am EDT (1509 UTC)	N9253M
<b>Aircraft</b>	<b>Serial Number</b>
<b>Flight Conducted Under</b> Instrument Flight Rules	32R-8513010

### Information:

#### Narrative:

On the 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 11:49 am EDT (1549 UTC), the Aircraft Accident Investigation Authority (AAIA) received notification of an occurrence involving a Piper PA-32R-301 aircraft with United States registration N9253M. The aircraft was reported to have lost radar contact with Miami Air Traffic Control Center at a position some 25nm north of main land Exuma, Bahamas at coordinates 23°56N 075°55.3W at approximately 11:09 am EDT (1509 UTC) with one (1) soul on board.

The aircraft which departed the North Palm Beach County Airport (F45), West Palm Beach, FL, USA on an Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) flight plan at approximately 8:49 am EDT, was enroute to the Stella Maris Airport (MYLS), Stella Maris, Long Island, Bahamas, with a final destination of Rum Cay, Bahamas.

At approximately 11:20 am, Nassau Air Traffic Control received a notification from Miami Air Traffic Control Center indicating that radar contact was lost with N9253M. It was also relayed that prior to radar contact being lost, there was some difficulty with the aircraft maintaining its assigned altitude due to inclement weather.

Nassau Air Traffic Control then initiated emergency response protocols and notified the Royal Bahamas Police Force (RBPF), Royal Bahamas Defense Force (RBDF), US Coast Guard, and the Bahamas Air Sea Rescue Association (BASRA).

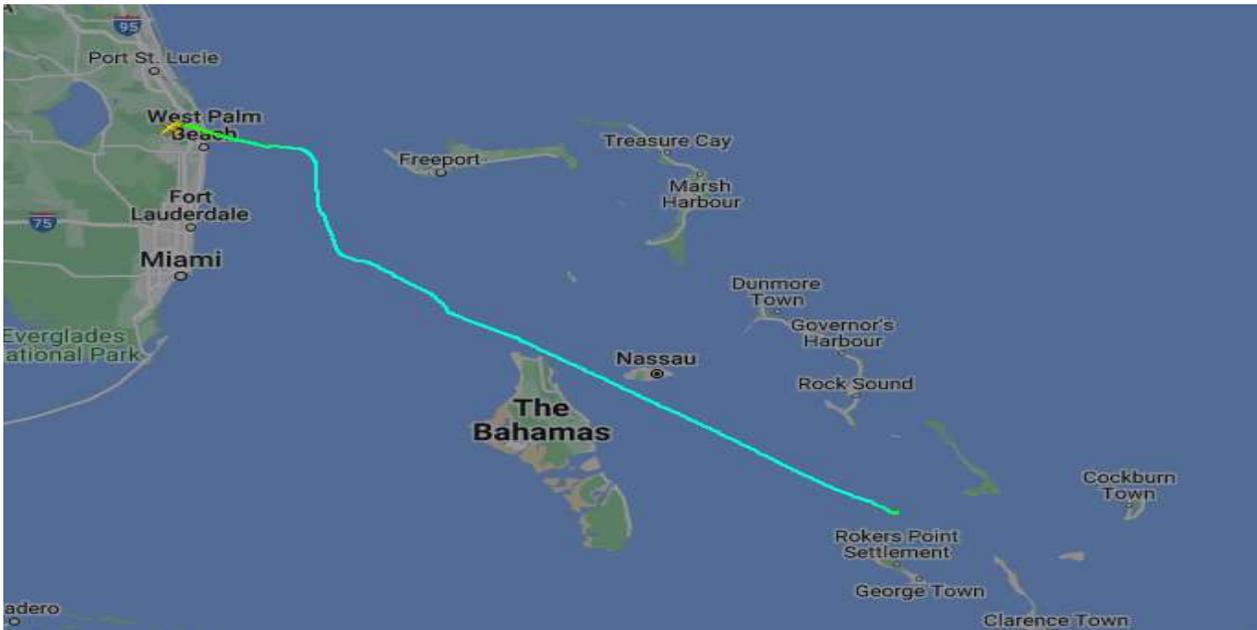
Marine and aerial assets were dispatched to the last known area in search of the aircraft.

Search and rescue efforts continued into Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023, after which there was a transition to search and recovery mode. The Royal Bahamas Defense Force vessel, HMBS Bahamas located and recovered a life jacket and aircraft seat at coordinates 24 05.97N 075 50.40W believed to belong to the missing aircraft. Search and recovery efforts were conducted until 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023, when at that time weather conditions did not allow efforts to continue. Additionally, a submersible pump was located and recovered, also believed to have come from the missing aircraft. The pilot neither the aircraft has been located up to the time of this report.

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*Fig.1 Aircraft route prior to accident flight*

*This is preliminary information, subject to change, and may contain errors. Any errors in this report will be corrected when the final report has been completed.*

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### Aircraft and Owner / Operator Information:

<b>Aircraft Manufacturer</b>	<b>Registration</b>
Piper Aircraft	N9253M
<b>Model / Series</b>	<b>Aircraft Category</b>
PA-32R-301	Normal
<b>Amateur Built</b>	
<b>Operator</b>	<b>Air Carrier</b>
Not Applicable	<b>Operating Certificate</b>
	Not Applicable



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### Meteorological Information and Flight Plan:

<b>Conditions at Accident site</b>	<b>Condition of Light</b>
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Instrument Meteorological  
Conditions

Day

<b>Observation facility</b>	<b>Observation Time</b>
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**Elevation**  
16 feet

1500 UTC

<b>Distance from Site</b>	<b>Temp /Dewpoint</b>
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105 miles

28°C/24°C

<b>Lowest Cloud Condition</b>	<b>Wind Direction/Speed</b>
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SCT015

190/14KT

<b>Lowest Ceiling</b>	<b>Visibility</b>
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BKN120

>6 statute miles

<b>Altimeter Setting</b>	<b>Type of flight Plan</b>
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29.91 in.HG

**Filed**

Instrument Flight Rules

<b>Departure Point</b>	<b>Destination</b>
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North Palm Beach County  
Airport (F45), West Palm  
Beach, FL, USA

Stella Maris Airport  
(MYLS), Long Island,  
Bahamas



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THE BAHAMAS DEPARTMENT OF METEOROLOGY  
Forecast Office Section  
P.O. Box N-8330  
Telephone No. 377-7178  
Fax No. 377-5275  
Nassau, Bahamas

### **SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT**

Issued by The Bahamas Department of Meteorology  
at 9:00 PM Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2023

#### **Inclement and wet-weather pattern is expected for the Central and Southeast Bahamas from Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June through Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2023.**

Deep layered troughing across the area is expected to bring a very warm and moist airmass over the islands beginning on Wednesday. The feature will generate unsettled weather conditions with heavy showers and thunderstorms, mainly across the Central Bahamas. Excessive rainfall is forecast for Thursday and Friday in particular. There is a moderate risk of flooding in low-lying and flood-prone areas.

Portions of the Central Bahama, namely Exuma, Cat Island, Long Island, San Salvador and Rum Cay should expect maximum rainfall accumulations 4 to 6 inches over a 3 day period, and isolated maxima of up to 8 to 10 inches over the next 5 days. Residents should remain vigilant and ready to take the necessary action to protect their property due to the impending conditions. Motorists should maneuver with extreme caution due to ponding on roads during and after heavy and prolonged rainfall events.

Please continue to monitor updates issued by The Bahamas Department of Meteorology concerning this weather event.

**Kaylinda Ward-Forbes, CMO**  
Bahamas Department of Meteorology

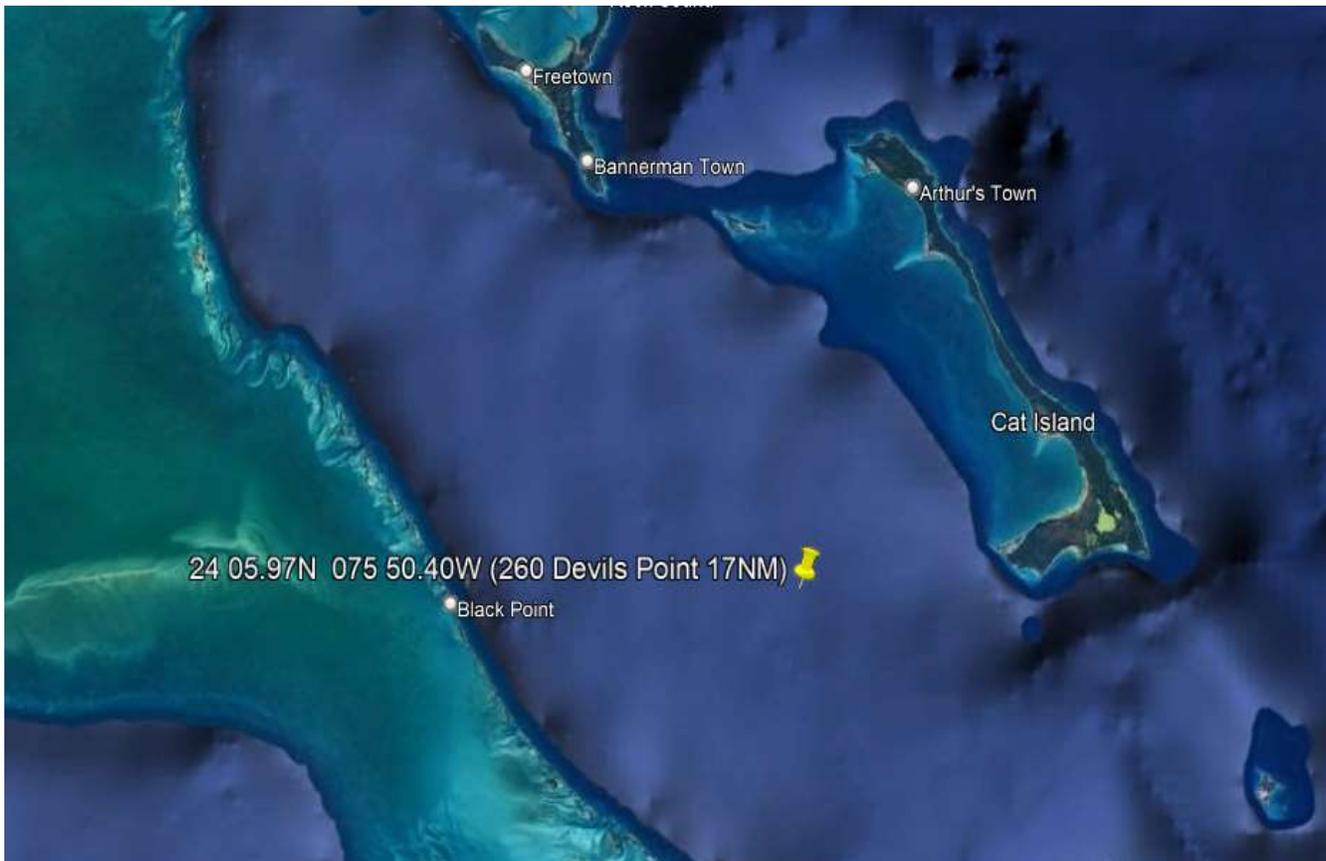
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### Wreckage and Impact Information:

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*Fig. 2 Location of aircraft seat and life jacket*

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*Fig. 3 Point of lost radar contact with aircraft*

**Crew Injuries**

Unknown

**Aircraft Damage**

Unknown

**Passenger Injuries**

None

**Aircraft Fire**

Not Applicable

**Ground Injuries**

None

**Aircraft Explosion**

Not Applicable

**Total Injuries**

Unknown

**Latitude, Longitude**

23°56N 075°55.3W

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*Fig. 4 File photo of aircraft*



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### **Administrative Information:**

#### **Investigator in Charge**

Ms. Jaime Nixon

#### **Additional Information**

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