

REP. TOM TANCREDO

MEMBER OF CONGRESS
6TH DISTRICT
COLORADO
1130 LONGWORTH H.O.B.
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
Tel: (202) 225-7882
Fax: (202) 226-4623



Xref FAA-050830-006
COMMITTEES

BUDGET
RESOURCES
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
240 WILCOX STREET, STE. 111
CASTLE ROCK, CO 80104
Tel: (303) 688-3430
Fax: (303) 688-3524

David Mandell
COPY FOR YOUR
INFORMATION
cc: David Balloff
Nick Sabatini
Peggy Gilligan
Quentin Burgess
DAN Hickey

August 4, 2005

To: Ms. Marion C. Blakey, Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration

Fax number: 1-202-267-8210 (Copy to: Mark Rosenker, Acting Chairman, NTSB)

Regarding: Emergency action to ground MU-2B aircraft

Number of Pages including Coversheet: 1

From: Congressman Tom Tancredo (CO-6th)

Mr. Terry Van Keuren, Constituent Advocate phone: 1-303-688-3430

fax: 1-303-688-3524 email: terry.vankeuren@mail.house.gov

Dear Ms. Blakey:

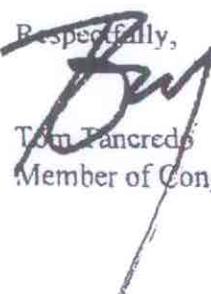
On June 23rd, I sent you a letter requesting that the FAA ground all Mitsubishi MU-2 aircraft currently flying in the US. Other members of the Colorado congressional delegation signed a similar letter, requesting an investigation into the airplane's air worthiness. I believed more drastic action was required. Prophetically, the last sentence in my letter was: "Thank you for your prompt attention to this letter—lives are at stake."

At 2:00 this morning, another pilot lost his life in the crash of another MU-2B at Centennial Airport outside Denver (two crashes, three fatalities in just eight months). As in other accidents involving this particular aircraft type, everything appeared normal until the aircraft impacted the ground. One expert my staff talked to said it sounds like most other MU-2 accidents....probable loss of power in a critical phase of flight.

Based on everything I have heard about the MU-2, I can no longer accept a finding of "pilot error" in any incident involving the aircraft. It does not matter if there are two pilots at the controls or the pilot-in-command has many thousands of flight hours. This aircraft can depart controlled flight in about a second.

This fatality should not have occurred. I am requesting that you **immediately issue a directive to ground** all MU-2 aircraft until a thorough and complete investigation into its air worthiness can be determined. Please respond ASAP to this facsimile letter.

Respectfully,


Tom Tancredo
Member of Congress