

T-28 Pilot Report

Flight: 733
Date: 06181999
Flight Time: 14:40 – 16:18 MDT
Pilot: Tom Root
Controller: Andy Detwiler
Location: Loveland, CO
Mission: Research flight

Computer Time	Video Time	Comments
14:44		Telemetry begins to be received at CHILL
		Tom heading E and climbing near GILL VORTAC
		Cloud bases 12 – 12.5 kft
		Video time is 3 sec ahead of data acquisition computer clock
14:54		Tom estimates tops at 18 kft with a few pushing up to low 20's kft
15:02		Convair and T-28 lining up as Sabreliner approaches.
		T-28 in a few wisps of cloud, and climbing to 22 kft
15:10		Aircraft still lining up, going S. Will turn and head for a cloud at 334°/14 nmi off GILL
15:16:13		Begin Run #1; going over the top of a cloud ~14 nmi NW of GILL. No turb. Everyone was above cloud top.
15:21:27		End of Run #1. Position 019°/15 nmi from GILL. Tom to pick next target.
15:22:55		Begin Run #2; lgt turb and lgt rime in "just a tiny little turret.
15:27:29		End Run #2; dropping 2 kft before next pass
		Video time exactly matches CHILL radar time
15:33:38		Run#3, heading WNW
		Lgt turb going over tops; just encountering the wisps at the tops
15:35		Turn 30° right for another turret to the NE
15:37		Weak updraft/lgt turb/lgt riming. Cells are slowly growing. Echo tops > 23.5 kft
		Pretty hard looking turret
15:40:44		End Run #3
15:44		Turning to pick up 150° hdng and go back through
		Peak reflectivity ~41 dBZ
		Begin Run #4
15:47:35		Cloud dissipating
15:49		Going over tops. T-28 actually in-cloud; Lgt turb
		Will head through another cell to CW
		Lgt turb
15:54:10		End Run #4.
		T-28 on south edge of target area. Aircraft descend to 16, 17, and 18 kft.
		Make another run to SW
15:57		Begin Run #5
		Lgt rain/ice/turb
		Through one echo; continuing on to next
15:59:45		In and out of next cloud; lgt turb
16:02		Aiming W for another echo
16:04		Into last echo; lgt turb/rime/rain
16:05		T-28 out of echo
16:07		T-28 in-cloud then out; lgt turb/lgt rain
16:10		End Run #5
		T-28 to RTB
		T-28 lands
16:18		Telemetry off.

NOTES

Weather

Towering Cu and CuCong

Maintenance

Operations

The 3 project aircraft conducted coordinated passes through upper portions of towering Cu and CuCong clouds. Turbulence was negligible to light, with occasional light precip and light icing. 2D-C images are good, showing snow and graupel. Hail images are all streaks, with the usual noise on descent when condensation on probe windows degrades probe performance.