



Sunny Swift

'Horizon visibility in Night VFR'

CARMEN AND RICCARDO HAVE FLOWN FROM SARDINIA AND SPEND A DAY OUT IN CORSICA. THEY ARE ENJOYING THE LAST MOMENTS BEFORE RETURNING.

WHAT A WONDERFUL SUNSET!

HEY GUYS, SHOULDN'T YOU BE AT THE AIRFIELD? IT'S GETTING LATE.

HI SUNNY! WHAT TIME IS IT?

IT'S 7 O'CLOCK ALREADY...

SHOOT - LET'S GO!

THE TRIP TO THE AIRFIELD TAKES LONGER THAN EXPECTED.

LOOK, IT'S GETTING DARK. WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE TOMORROW?

BUT WE HAVE THE HOTEL IN RENA MAJORE AND I HAVE TO PUT A TICKET ON THE CAR.

IT WILL DEFINITELY BE NIGHT BEFORE YOU ARRIVE AT OLBIA.

BUT I DID MY NIGHT VFR TRAINING 4 YEARS AGO.

IT CAN BE TRICKY. ALSO, THERE ARE CLOUDS COMING.

HOW LONG IS THE FLIGHT, 20 MINUTES? I THINK WE CAN MAKE IT.

SHORTLY AFTER TAKE-OFF, HIGH CLOUDS OBSCURE THE MOON.

MAYBE MY SIGHT ISN'T THAT GOOD BUT I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING!

IT'S TOTALLY BLACK..!

MIRACULOUSLY, THE CLOUDS OPEN AND THE MOON SHINES OVER THE SEA. THEY REALISE THEY WERE HEADING TOWARDS THE WATER!

SHOOT - PULL UP!

OH!

WE ALMOST CRASHED!

NOW I CAN SEE THE COAST CLEARLY. LET'S GO BACK TO FIGARI*. THE AIRPORT IS JUST BEHIND THAT MOUNTAIN.

*FIGARI: SOUTH CORSICA AIRPORT

THE VISIBILITY WOULD HAVE BEEN OK DURING THE DAY, BUT AT NIGHT YOU NEED TO BE ABLE TO SEE THE HORIZON ALL THE TIME. OVER LAND, GROUND LIGHTS HAVE TO BE VISIBLE. OVER THE SEA, DON'T TAKE OFF WITHOUT A CLEAR SKY AND MOONLIGHT.

DURING THE TIME I HAD NO VISUAL REFERENCE, I FELT VERTIGO AND WAS BLOCKED.

NEVER AGAIN FLYING NIGHT VFR WITHOUT A CLEAR HORIZON VIEW!

You can find links to:

- Night VFR references,
- Night VFR accidents, and
- Weather forecast references

in the 'RELATED CONTENT' section

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