

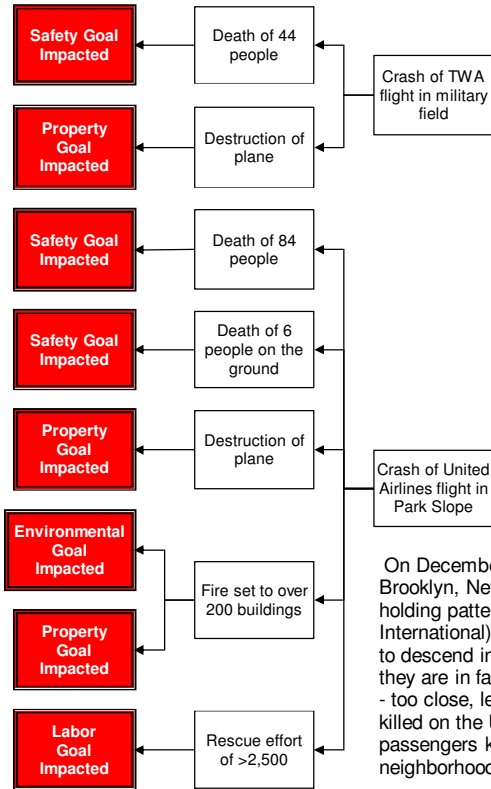
# 1 Problem

<b>What</b>	Problem(s)	Airplanes collided in mid-air
<b>When</b>	Date	December 16, 1960
	Time	~10:30 a.m.
	Different, unusual, unique	United Airlines plane overshot holding point by 12 miles, poor weather
<b>Where</b>	State, city	New York City
	Facility, site	Idlewild and LaGuardia airports
	Task being performed	Making descents

## Impact to the Goals

<b>Safety</b>	134 people killed (44 TWA flight, 84 on United Airlines, 6 on the ground)
<b>Environmental</b>	Fire set to over 200 buildings
<b>Customer Service</b>	Liability attributed to airlines, government 61% attributable to United Airlines 24% attributable to US Government 15% attributable to TWA
<b>Property, Equip, Mtls</b>	Destruction of both planes
<b>Labor, Time</b>	Fire set to over 200 buildings Rescue effort of >2,500

# 2 Analysis



On December 16, 1960, two planes collided about a mile above Brooklyn, New York. One plane - United Airlines Flight 826 - was in a holding pattern preparing to descend into Idlewild (now John F. Kennedy International) Airport. The other plane - TWA Flight 266 - was preparing to descend into LaGuardia. Since both airports serve New York City, they are in fairly close proximity. The planes, too, were in close proximity - too close, leading to their collision. In addition to the 84 passengers killed on the United flight (though one would survive for a day) and the 44 passengers killed on the TWA flight, 6 people were killed in the neighborhood of Park Slope, where the United plane landed.

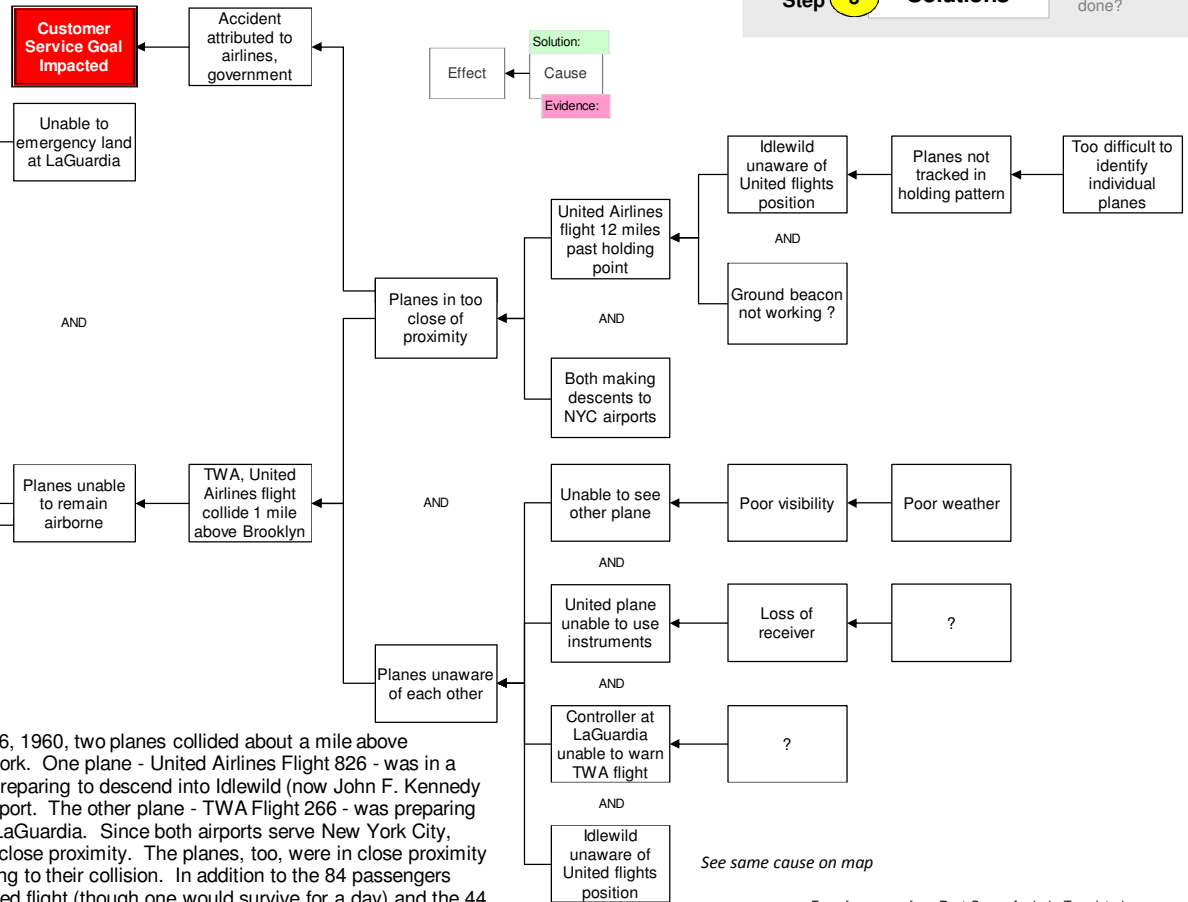
# 1960 NYC AIR DISASTER

## Two planes collide mid-air

In addition to causes, evidence-gathering can provide lessons learned. Much of the evidence of the investigation of this tragedy came from the "black box". It was the first - though not the last - time significant evidence was used from this source.

"I heard a big noise while we were flying."  
Stephan Baltz, 11, who died of his injuries the next day

### Cause Map



Cause Mapping is a Root Cause Analysis method that captures basic cause-and-effect relationships supported with evidence.

## CAUSE MAPPING

Problem Solving • Incident Investigation • Root Cause Analysis

- Step 1 Problem** - What's the Problem?
- Step 2 Analysis** - Why did it happen?
- Step 3 Solutions** - What will be done?

See same cause on map

For a free copy of our Root Cause Analysis Template in Microsoft Excel, used to create this page, visit our web site.

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