

N4816A Accident Investigation Notes

On scene:

- Damage sustained to the left wing forward and aft spars, leading edge and forward lift strut.
- Damage to the right wing by the tip bow, fabric torn.
- Damage to the right side forward cowling.
- Damage to the right horizontal stabilizer and elevator. Both were bent up.
- Damage to the cockpit upper center section.
- Fuel selector in the off position.
- Missing the aircraft airworthiness certificate.
- Missing the aircraft weight and balance.
- The aircraft hit three mail boxes, one light pole, and damaged one tree.
- All tanks were sumped showing no contaminants in the fuel.
- The aircraft landed
- The aircraft came to rest in a heading of 106 degrees.

Interview:

- Aircraft was fueled at 3G3 where 7.5 gallons was added to each tank (16 gallons total).
- He did not have a dip stick for this aircraft to see how much was in each tank. He based the fuel quantity off of the gauges.
- He said the fuel gauges were both reading $\frac{1}{4}$ tank prior to adding fuel.
- He planned the trip at a cruise of 2350 RPM with a seven to eight gallon burn.
- He planned on the trip from 3G3 to LUK to take 1.57 hours.
- He always starts off on the left tank per the AOM.
- Switches tanks every 10 minutes while en-route. He was not sure if he did this consistently during this flight.
- Mid way he heard a thud and was not sure what it was. There was no changes in engine indications.
- He was at an altitude of 2300 feet MSL and 10 miles out from LUK and was cleared to land when the engine started to lose power.
- He was not sure what tank he was on when the issue occurred.

- He said the engine started to lose power and then started to come back when it then quit.
- He did not remember when he had a full loss of power.
- He attempted to restart the engine multiple times with no luck.
- He followed the checklist.
- He did not feel that he moved the fuel selector to the other tank during the engine failure.
- He was not sure if the propeller had stopped spinning.
- He was planning on landing at a golf course and determined he was not going to be able to make it and chose the road.