



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	LAUREL, Maryland	Accident Number:	BF091FA087
Date & Time:	September 30, 1991, 17:30 Local	Registration:	N2513N
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-38-112	Aircraft Damage:	None
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

THE ACCIDENT AIRCRAFT WAS ON ITS FIRST FLIGHT OF THE DAY. THE PREFLIGHT WAS COMPLETED WHICH INCLUDED DRAINING THE FUEL SUMPS FOR CONTAMINATIONS. THE PRETAKEOFF ENGINE RUNUP WAS SATISFACTORY. THE INSTRUCTOR REPORTED THAT THEY DEPARTED ON RUNWAY 3 AND AS THEY WERE CLIMBING THROUGH 200 FEET MSL, THE ENGINE LOST POWER. HE UNSUCCESSFULLY TRIED TO RESTART THE ENGINE. A FORCED LANDING WAS MADE IN A FIELD, ABOUT A HALF MILE NORTH OF THE AIRPORT. THE AIRCRAFT STRUCK A TREE AND A UTILITY POLE DURING THE APPROACH TO THE FIELD, DAMAGING THE WINGS. EXAMINATION OF THE ENGINE DID NOT DISCLOSE ANY EVIDENCE OF MALFUNCTION.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: A LOSS OF ENGINE POWER FOR UNDETERMINED REASONS.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (C) REASON FOR OCCURRENCE UNDETERMINED

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	24, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	October 25, 1990
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	430 hours (Total, all aircraft), 51 hours (Total, this make and model), 356 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 152 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 51 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N2513N
Model/Series:	PA-38-112 PA-38-112	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	38-790883
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	August 13, 1991 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1670 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	29 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	6425 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-235-L2C
Registered Owner:	GLENN I. ALTMAN	Rated Power:	125 Horsepower
Operator:	SUBURBAN AIR SERVICE INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	BWI ,146 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	10 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	17:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	240°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 4000 ft AGL	Visibility	20 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	80°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	19°C / 11°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	(W18)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	17:15 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	SUBURBAN W18	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Airport Elevation:	145 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	3	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2170 ft / 29 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced landing

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 None	Aircraft Damage:	None
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	39.100948,-76.799919(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Johnson, Beverley

Additional Participating Persons: DOUG SCHWAB; BALTIMORE , MD
DENNIS JONES; WASHINGTON , DC

Original Publish Date: June 10, 1993

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: [Class](#)

Note:

Investigation Docket: <https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=11632>

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