

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: PARKER, Colorado Accident Number: DEN83LA189

Date & Time: August 12, 1983, 19:45 Local Registration: N2183A

Aircraft: PIPER PA-22-135 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

THE ACFT NOSE GEAR COLLAPSED DURING A FORCED LANDING AFTER THE ENGINE QUIT. NEITHER THE ACFT OWNER NOR THE ACFT HAD FLOWN FOR OVER 9 MONTHS. THE OWNER WAS ON A RECHECK FLT WITH A CFI FOR CURRENCY. THE OWNER HAD PREFLIGHTED THE ACFT AND FOUND NO WATER IN THE FUEL SUMPS. THE CFI DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE PREFLIGHT OR EVEN WITNESS IT BUT ACCEPTED THE OWNERS ASSESSMENT SINCE HE HAD SEEN THE OWNER PREFLT ON A PRIOR OCCASION. THE FLT PROCEEDED NORMALLY UNTIL THE CFI MADE SOME STEEP TURNS. THE ENGINE FAILED TO RESPOND TO THROTTLE A SHORT WHILE AFTER THE TURNS WHILE THE OWNER WAS FLYING. THECFI TOOK OVER FOR THE EMERGENCY AND FAILED TO GET A RESTART SO A FORCED LANDING WAS MADE. POST ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REVEALED WATER IN THE FUEL LINES AND CARBURETOR. ONE CUP OF WATER WAS DRAINED FROM THE GASCOLATOR. THE ACFT HAS TWO 18 GALLON FUEL TANKS SITUATED IN THE WINGS LEVEL ENOUGH SO THAT WATER COULD COLLECT OVER THE ENTIRE BOTTOM WITHOUT COLLECTING AT THE FUEL OUTLET LINES.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL

Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

Findings

1. (C) FLUID, FUEL - WATER

2. (C) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT - INADEQUATE - DUAL STUDENT

3. (C) SUPERVISION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND(CFI)

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Occurrence #3: NOSE GEAR COLLAPSED

Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

4. LANDING GEAR, NOSE GEAR ASSEMBLY - OVERLOAD

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Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	35,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medicalw/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	September 15, 1982
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	65 hours (Total, all aircraft), 42 hour all aircraft)	rs (Total, this make and model), 39 ho	urs (Pilot In Command,

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N2183A
Model/Series:	PA-22-135 PA-22-135	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	22-603
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	September 6, 1982 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1950 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	6 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1746 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	0-290-62
Registered Owner:	DAWSON FINE JEWELRY LTD.	Rated Power:	135 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

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Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	APA ,5871 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	11 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	16:45 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	270°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	9000 ft AGL	Visibility	30 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 15000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	10 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	210°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	23°C / 14°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipita	ation	
Departure Point:	ENGLEWOOD , CO (APA)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	18:55 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	EVERITT PVT AIRSTRIP	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Airport Elevation:	6295 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced landing

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	39.499794,-104.760978(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Winningham, Fred
Additional Participating Persons:	
Original Publish Date:	
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=16136

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, "accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person" (Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB's statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 United States Code section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 United States Code section 1154(b) is available here.

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