



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	COLUMBUS, New Mexico	<b>Accident Number:</b>	DEN86LA058
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	December 31, 1985, 12:00 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N5330C
<b>Aircraft:</b>	CESSNA 140A	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Minor, 1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

ACCORDING TO THE PLT, AFTER PERFORMING THE PREFLIGHT ENGINE RUNUP, HE LEANED THE MIXTURE CONTROL AND SWITCHED THE FUEL SELECTOR TO BOTH TANKS. SHORTLY AFTER TAKEOFF AT APPROXIMATELY 50 FT AGL, THE ENG LOST PARTIAL PWR. THE PLT MADE A FORCED LANDING FOLLOWING THE PARTIAL PWR LOSS. THE CESSNA 140A FUEL SELECTOR HAS THREE POSITIONS, LEFT TANK, RIGHT TANK, AND BOTH OFF.

## 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(PARTIAL) - NONMECHANICAL  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

#### Findings

1. (C) FUEL TANK SELECTOR POSITION - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT - INATTENTIVE - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) LACK OF TOTAL EXPERIENCE IN TYPE OF AIRCRAFT - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

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Occurrence #3: MAIN GEAR COLLAPSED  
Phase of Operation: LANDING

Findings

- 4. TERRAIN CONDITION - ROUGH/UNEVEN
- 5. OBJECT - FENCE

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial; Flight instructor; Private	<b>Age:</b>	23, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	Helicopter	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	Airplane single-engine	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	December 9, 1985
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	Yes	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	3700 hours (Total, all aircraft), 43 hours (Total, this make and model), 3652 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 23 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	CESSNA	<b>Registration:</b>	N5330C
<b>Model/Series:</b>	140A 140A	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	15450
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	November 19, 1985 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	1500 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	157 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	3725 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	CONTINENTAL
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	C-90-12F
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	JEFFERY J. HUNTER	<b>Rated Power:</b>	90 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>		<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>		<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	DMN ,4309 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	23 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	11:50 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	337°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Thin Overcast / 25000 ft AGL	<b>Visibility</b>	60 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	5 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	228°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	16°C / 2°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	COLUMBUS , NM (60E )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	EL PASO , TX (4E8 )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	11:59 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class D

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Dirt;Grass/turf
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	0 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	0	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	0 ft / 0 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Forced landing

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Minor	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 Minor, 1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	31.819648,-107.639251(est)

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Mickle, Ronald

**Additional Participating Persons:** DUDLEY MASON; ALBUQUERQUE , NM

**Original Publish Date:**

**Last Revision Date:**

**Investigation Class:** [Class](#)

**Note:**

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=16909>

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