



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	BENNETT, Colorado	<b>Accident Number:</b>	DEN91LA016
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	November 11, 1990, 10:30 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N87PF
<b>Aircraft:</b>	FOGARTY PITTS                      S1SEW	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

THE ATP PILOT WAS PERFORMING AEROBATICS WITH A BORROWED AIRPLANE. HE SAID THE ENGINE QUIT AT 1500 FEET AGL, AND HE MADE A FORCED LANDING IN A WHEAT FIELD. THE LANDING GEAR WAS SHEARED AND THE PLANE CAME TO REST NOSE DOWN. TWO WING SPARS WERE BENT AND THE PROPELLER WAS DAMAGED. THE OWNER AND PILOT SAID THE PLANE HAD FLOWN FOR 2.5 HOURS ON 19 GALLONS OF FUEL. THE OWNER SAID THE PLANE USED 8 GALLONS PER HOUR. THE INVESTIGATION FOUND NO FUEL IN THE TANKS AND ONLY A TRACE IN THE ENGINE FUEL SYSTEM. A POSTACCIDENT ENGINE RUN RESULTED IN A NORMAL RUN. THE PILOT STATED HE RAN OUT OF FUEL.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S FAILURE TO REFUEL THE AIRPLANE AND THE RESULTANT FUEL EXHAUSTION INDUCED POWER LOSS. A FACTOR WAS THE SOFT TERRAIN IN WHICH THE FORCED LANDING WAS PERFORMED.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL  
Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

### Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION

2. (C) REFUELING - NOT PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

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Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

3. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - SOFT

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Airline transport; Flight instructor	<b>Age:</b>	43, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Unknown
<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>		<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	May 1, 1989
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	5500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 21 hours (Total, this make and model), 7 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	FOGARTY PITTS	<b>Registration:</b>	N87PF
<b>Model/Series:</b>	S1SEW S1SEW	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	Yes
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>		<b>Serial Number:</b>	30
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	1
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	Unknown	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	1150 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	0 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>		<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	LYCOMING
<b>ELT:</b>	Not installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-360-A4A
<b>Registered Owner:</b>		<b>Rated Power:</b>	180 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	FOGARTY, PATRICK D.	<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>		<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>		<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	15 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	/	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	0°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>		<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	-18°C / -18°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	ENGLEWOOD , CO (APA )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	(APA )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	09:45 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	NONE	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	
<b>Runway Used:</b>	0	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>		<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Forced landing

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	39.750595,-104.419944(est)

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Collins, Robert

**Additional Participating Persons:**

**Original Publish Date:** October 2, 1992

**Last Revision Date:**

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

**Note:**

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=18054>

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