



Aviation Investigation Final Report

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| Location: | MARBLE FALLS, Texas | Accident Number: | FTW92FA014 |
| Date & Time: | October 27, 1991, 17:35 Local | Registration: | N7246H |
| Aircraft: | Beech A36 | Aircraft Damage: | Destroyed |
| Defining Event: | | Injuries: | 2 Fatal |
| Flight Conducted Under: | Part 91: General aviation - Personal | | |

Analysis

A 49 YEAR OLD PRIVATE PILOT AND HIS 27 YEAR OLD BROTHER-IN-LAW WENT FLYING TOGETHER FOR THE FIRST TIME. THE PILOT WAS A RETIRED NAVY FLIGHT SURGEON WITH 221 HOURS LOGGED AS A PRIVATE PILOT. HIS PASSENGER WAS A RATED AVIATOR ON ACTIVE DUTY WITH THE USAF, WHO RECENTLY COMPLETED A COMBAT TOUR FLYING KC-135 DURING OPERATION 'DESERT STORM'. AFTER COMPLETING SEVERAL PASSES OVER A SCENIC AREA, WITNESSES OBSERVED THE AIRPLANE PERFORM A MANEUVER COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS A 'WINGOVER' WITHOUT SUFFICIENT ALTITUDE TO RECOVER FROM THE ENSUING DIVE. IMPACT OCCURRED AT ABOUT 45 DEGREES NOSE LOW. THE WRECKAGE PATH WAS 350 FEET LONG.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S PERFORMANCE OF ACROBATIC MANEUVERS AT AN ALTITUDE TOO LOW TO ALLOW FOR RECOVERY.

Findings

Occurrence #1: ABRUPT MANEUVER
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. AEROBATICS - INITIATED - PILOT IN COMMAND

2. (C) PROPER ALTITUDE - NOT USED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) LEVEL OFF - NOT POSSIBLE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

4. TERRAIN CONDITION - OPEN FIELD

Factual Information

Pilot Information

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|----------------------------------|--|--|--------------|
| Certificate: | Private | Age: | 49, Male |
| Airplane Rating(s): | Single-engine land | Seat Occupied: | Left |
| Other Aircraft Rating(s): | None | Restraint Used: | |
| Instrument Rating(s): | Airplane | Second Pilot Present: | Yes |
| Instructor Rating(s): | None | Toxicology Performed: | Yes |
| Medical Certification: | Class 3 | Last FAA Medical Exam: | May 23, 1991 |
| Occupational Pilot: | No | Last Flight Review or Equivalent: | |
| Flight Time: | 221 hours (Total, all aircraft), 72 hours (Total, this make and model), 105 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 72 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 35 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft) | | |

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

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|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aircraft Make: | Beech | Registration: | N7246H |
| Model/Series: | A36 A36 | Aircraft Category: | Airplane |
| Year of Manufacture: | | Amateur Built: | |
| Airworthiness Certificate: | Normal | Serial Number: | E-2295 |
| Landing Gear Type: | Retractable - Tricycle | Seats: | 6 |
| Date/Type of Last Inspection: | March 4, 1991 Annual | Certified Max Gross Wt.: | 3600 lbs |
| Time Since Last Inspection: | 126 Hrs | Engines: | 1 Reciprocating |
| Airframe Total Time: | 845 Hrs | Engine Manufacturer: | CONTINENTAL |
| ELT: | Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident | Engine Model/Series: | IO-550-B |
| Registered Owner: | REX L. & KATHLEEN A REPASS | Rated Power: | 300 Horsepower |
| Operator: | REX L. & KATHLEEN A REPASS | Operating Certificate(s) Held: | None |
| Operator Does Business As: | | Operator Designator Code: | |

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

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|---|----------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Conditions at Accident Site: | Visual (VMC) | Condition of Light: | Day |
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | AUS ,632 ft msl | Distance from Accident Site: | 32 Nautical Miles |
| Observation Time: | 17:50 Local | Direction from Accident Site: | 120° |
| Lowest Cloud Condition: | Scattered / 4600 ft AGL | Visibility | 15 miles |
| Lowest Ceiling: | Broken / 8000 ft AGL | Visibility (RVR): | |
| Wind Speed/Gusts: | 11 knots / | Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual: | / |
| Wind Direction: | 160° | Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual: | / |
| Altimeter Setting: | 29 inches Hg | Temperature/Dew Point: | 28°C / 19°C |
| Precipitation and Obscuration: | No Obscuration; No Precipitation | | |
| Departure Point: | AUSTIN , TX (AUS) | Type of Flight Plan Filed: | None |
| Destination: | | Type of Clearance: | None |
| Departure Time: | 17:14 Local | Type of Airspace: | Class G |

Airport Information

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|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|------|
| Airport: | | Runway Surface Type: | |
| Airport Elevation: | | Runway Surface Condition: | |
| Runway Used: | 0 | IFR Approach: | None |
| Runway Length/Width: | | VFR Approach/Landing: | None |

Wreckage and Impact Information

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|----------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Crew Injuries: | 1 Fatal | Aircraft Damage: | Destroyed |
| Passenger Injuries: | 1 Fatal | Aircraft Fire: | None |
| Ground Injuries: | N/A | Aircraft Explosion: | None |
| Total Injuries: | 2 Fatal | Latitude, Longitude: | 30.570667,-98.269203(est) |

Administrative Information

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| Investigator In Charge (IIC): | Casanova, Hector |
| Additional Participating Persons: | HANK GAMEZ; SAN ANTONIO , TX JERRY LINDQUESTER; SAN ANTONIO , TX |
| Original Publish Date: | May 5, 1993 |
| Last Revision Date: | |
| Investigation Class: | Class |
| Note: | |
| Investigation Docket: | https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=18337 |

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