



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	HILLSBORO, Texas	Accident Number:	FTW93LA023
Date & Time:	October 25, 1992, 19:20 Local	Registration:	N7629Y
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-30	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

A PRIVATE PILOT ON A 536 NAUTICAL MILES CROSS COUNTRY FLIGHT FLEW FOR FOUR HOURS AND TWELVE MINUTES BEFORE RUNNING OUT OF FUEL ON THE RETURN LEG OF HIS FLIGHT. HE HAD TAKEN OFF WITH 84 GALLONS OF FUEL ON BOARD AND DID NOT REFUEL AT HIS OVERNIGHT STOP. THE PILOT ATTEMPTED A FORCED LANDING NEXT TO AN INTERSTATE HIGHWAY. DURING THE LANDING ROLL, BOTH MAIN LANDING GEARS COLLAPSED AND THE LEFT WING IMPACTED A UTILITY POLE.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: FUEL EXHAUSTION ENGINE POWER LOSS DUE TO THE PILOT'S FAILURE TO REFUEL. A FACTOR WAS THE LACK OF SUITABLE TERRAIN AVAILABLE FOR THE FORCED LANDING.

Findings

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

Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

Findings

1. 2 ENGINES
 2. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION
 3. (C) REFUELING - NOT PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

- 4. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - NONE SUITABLE
- 5. OBJECT - POLE

Occurrence #4: MAIN GEAR COLLAPSED
Phase of Operation: OTHER

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	29, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	August 30, 1991
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	232 hours (Total, all aircraft), 45 hours (Total, this make and model), 158 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 45 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 25 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N7629Y
Model/Series:	PA-30 PA-30	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	30-705
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	September 5, 1992 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3600 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	46 Hrs	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	IO-320-B1A
Registered Owner:	SUN BELT AVIATION INC.	Rated Power:	160 Horsepower
Operator:	SUN BELT AVIATION 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:	Dusk
Observation Facility, Elevation:	ACT ,540 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	34 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	18:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	183°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown	Visibility	15 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 10000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	110°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	25°C / 15°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	HOT SPRINGS , AR (HOT)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	MCGREGOR , TX (F60)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	17:20 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced landing

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	32.000015,-97.110321(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Casanova, Hector
Additional Participating Persons:	LARRY G WILKINSON; FORT WORTH , TX
Original Publish Date:	June 30, 1993
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=18606

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