



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	INTRACOASTALCTY, Louisiana	Accident Number:	FTW86LA009
Date & Time:	October 10, 1985, 20:00 Local	Registration:	N21RH
Aircraft:	CESSNA A185E	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Public aircraft		

Analysis

THE PLT WAS SPRAYING FOR MOSQUITO CONTROL DURING THE HOURS OF DARKNESS. HE TURNED TO REVERSE COURSE AND THEN TURNED ON THE ACFT'S LANDING LIGHT TO CHECK HIS ALTITUDE. HE OBSERVED POWER LINES BUT IT WAS TOO LATE FOR EVASIVE ACTION. AFTER THE PROP IMPACTED THE LINES A PWR LOSS OCCURRED AND THE PLT MADE AN EMERGENCY LANDING, STRAIGHT AHEAD IN A PASTURE.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - TURN TO REVERSE DIRECTION

Findings

1. (C) PROPER ALTITUDE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
 2. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - HIGH OBSTRUCTION(S)
 3. (F) OBJECT - WIRE, TRANSMISSION
 4. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT
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Occurrence #2: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER

Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - AERIAL APPLICATION

Occurrence #3: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Occurrence #4: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	42, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	September 4, 1985
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	18000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 120 hours (Total, this make and model), 18000 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 300 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N21RH
Model/Series:	A185E A185E	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	18501795
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	39 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2898 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520-D
Registered Owner:	VERMILLION FLYERS, INC.	Rated Power:	300 Horsepower
Operator:		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:	Night/dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	20:00 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	0°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	ABBEVILLE , LA (OR3)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	19:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

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

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:	29.969877,-92.120323(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Johnson, J.

Additional Participating Persons: WALTER J PRICE; BATON ROUGE , LA

Original Publish Date:

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: [Class](#)

Note:

Investigation Docket: <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=21983>

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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](#).