



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

|                                |                                      |                         |             |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Location:</b>               | NASHVILLE, Arkansas                  | <b>Accident Number:</b> | FTW91LA127  |
| <b>Date &amp; Time:</b>        | July 25, 1991, 17:08 Local           | <b>Registration:</b>    | N8507P      |
| <b>Aircraft:</b>               | PIPER PA-24-400                      | <b>Aircraft Damage:</b> | Substantial |
| <b>Defining Event:</b>         |                                      | <b>Injuries:</b>        | 2 Minor     |
| <b>Flight Conducted Under:</b> | Part 91: General aviation - Personal |                         |             |

## Analysis

A PRIVATE PILOT ENROUTE TO OSHKOSH, WISCONSIN, WAS MAKING AN INTERMEDIATE REFUELING STOP WHEN HE NOTICED AN ABNORMALLY LOW FUEL FLOW, FOLLOWED BY A ROUGH RUNNING ENGINE. THE PILOT INITIATED EMERGENCY PROCEDURES TO RESTORE NORMAL ENGINE OPERATION TO NO AVAIL. THE ENGINE STOPPED AND THE PILOT INITIATED A FORCED LANDING TO THE ONLY AREA THAT WAS CLEAR OF HIGH VEGETATION. THE AIRCRAFT LANDED HARD IN ROLLING TERRAIN. THE ENGINE STOPPAGE WAS CAUSED BY FUEL STARVATION AS A RESULT OF A BLOCKED FINGER FUEL STRAINER IN THE FUEL SERVO UNIT BY AN UNSPECIFIED CONTAMINANT.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: FUEL STARVATION INDUCED LOSS OF POWER DUE TO A BLOCKED FINGER FUEL STRAINER IN THE FUEL SERVO UNIT. A FACTOR WAS THE UNSUITABLE TERRAIN AT THE PILOT'S DISPOSAL.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER  
Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

### Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - CONTAMINATION

2. (C) FUEL SYSTEM,SCREEN - BLOCKED(TOTAL)

3. (C) FLUID,FUEL - STARVATION

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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

Findings

4. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - NONE SUITABLE

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

|                                  |  |  |                  |
|----------------------------------|--|--|------------------|
| <b>Certificate:</b>              | Private  | <b>Age:</b>                              | 51, Male         |
| <b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>       | Single-engine land   | <b>Seat Occupied:</b>                    | Unknown          |
| <b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b> | None   | <b>Restraint Used:</b>                   |                  |
| <b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>     | None   | <b>Second Pilot Present:</b>             | No               |
| <b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>     | None   | <b>Toxicology Performed:</b>             | No               |
| <b>Medical Certification:</b>    | Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.   | <b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>            | October 25, 1989 |
| <b>Occupational Pilot:</b>       | UNK  | <b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b> |                  |
| <b>Flight Time:</b>              | 1150 hours (Total, all aircraft), 50 hours (Total, this make and model), 40 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 12 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft) |  |                  |

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

|                                      |                        |                                       |                 |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Aircraft Make:</b>                | PIPER                  | <b>Registration:</b>                  | N8507P          |
| <b>Model/Series:</b>                 | PA-24-400 PA-24-400    | <b>Aircraft Category:</b>             | Airplane        |
| <b>Year of Manufacture:</b>          |                        | <b>Amateur Built:</b>                 |                 |
| <b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>    |                        | <b>Serial Number:</b>                 | 26-87           |
| <b>Landing Gear Type:</b>            | Retractable - Tricycle | <b>Seats:</b>                         | 4               |
| <b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b> | Unknown                | <b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>       | 3600 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>                          | Installed, activated   | <b>Engine Model/Series:</b>           | IO-720          |
| <b>Registered Owner:</b>             | STEPHAN P. SCHIPPER    | <b>Rated Power:</b>                   | 400 Horsepower  |
| <b>Operator:</b>                     | STEPHAN P. SCHIPPER    | <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>          | Scattered / 5000 ft AGL | <b>Visibility</b>                           | 7 miles |
| <b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>                  | Broken / 10000 ft AGL   | <b>Visibility (RVR):</b>                    |         |
| <b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>                | 5 knots /               | <b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>     | /       |
| <b>Wind Direction:</b>                  | 220°                    | <b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b> | /       |
| <b>Altimeter Setting:</b>               |                         | <b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>               |         |
| <b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>   | N/A - None - Haze       |   |         |
| <b>Departure Point:</b>                 | BROKEN BOW , OK (BRB )  | <b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>           | None    |
| <b>Destination:</b>                     | OSHKOSH , WI (OSH )     | <b>Type of Clearance:</b>                   | None    |
| <b>Departure Time:</b>                  | 16:30 Local             | <b>Type of Airspace:</b>                    |         |

## Airport Information

|                             |   |                                  |                |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Airport:</b>             |   | <b>Runway Surface Type:</b>      |                |
| <b>Airport Elevation:</b>   |   | <b>Runway Surface Condition:</b> |                |
| <b>Runway Used:</b>         | 0 | <b>IFR Approach:</b>             |                |
| <b>Runway Length/Width:</b> |   | <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 Minor | <b>Aircraft Fire:</b>       | None                      |
| <b>Ground Injuries:</b>    | N/A     | <b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>  | None                      |
| <b>Total Injuries:</b>     | 2 Minor | <b>Latitude, Longitude:</b> | 33.939823,-93.849662(est) |

## Administrative Information

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>     | Casanova, Hector  |
| <b>Additional Participating Persons:</b> | E. NEWBERRY; LITTLE ROCK , AR   |
| <b>Original Publish Date:</b>            | March 2, 1993   |
| <b>Last Revision Date:</b>               |   |
| <b>Investigation Class:</b>              | <a href="#">Class</a>   |
| <b>Note:</b>                             |   |
| <b>Investigation Docket:</b>             | <a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=23370">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=23370</a> |

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