



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: SANTA NELLA, California Accident Number: LAX84LA160

Date & Time: January 30, 1984, 15:20 Local Registration: N731WR

Aircraft: CESSNA A188B Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 1 Serious

Flight Conducted Under: Part 137: Agricultural

Analysis

DURING A LOW LEVEL AG TURN, THE ACFT'S LEFT WING IMPACTED AN 8-FT HIGH STAND PIPE. THE ACFT THEN CARTWHEELED & CRASHED. A FEW WEEKS BEFORE THE ACCIDENT, THE PLT HAD PERSONALLY INSPECTED THE FIELD. HOWEVER, JUST DAYS BEFORE THE ACCIDENT, THE STANDPIPE HAD BEEN ERECTED.

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 - AERIAL APPLICATION

Findings

1. (C) VISUAL LOOKOUT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	50,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medicalw/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	April 12, 1983
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	12000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 100	0 hours (Total, this make and model)	

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N731WR
Model/Series:	A188B A188B	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Restricted (Special)	Serial Number:	18803218T
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	80 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1700 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520-D
Registered Owner:	HAMILTON MACHADO	Rated Power:	300 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

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Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	3 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:	18°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	N/A - None - Haze		
Departure Point:	GUSTINE , CA (301)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	00:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

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

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	37.069194,-120.839591(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Pollack, Wayne

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date:

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: Class

Note:

Investigation Docket: https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=24156

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

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.

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