



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	SAN RAFAEL, California	Accident Number:	LAX86LA189
Date & Time:	April 23, 1986, 15:50 Local	Registration:	N4496C
Aircraft:	CESSNA 195A	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE TWO AIRCRAFT COLLIDED ON THE RUNWAY DURING THE LANDING APPROACH. THE CESSNA PILOT HAD WASHED HIS AIRCRAFT AND HAD MADE A LOCAL FLIGHT TO DRY IT OFF. THE BEECH PILOT WAS RETURNING FROM A NEARBY AIRPORT WHERE AN ANNUAL INSPECTION HAD BEEN PERFORMED. WITNESSES STATED THAT THE CESSNA HAD LANDED AND WAS ROLLING ON THE RUNWAY WHEN THE BEECH LANDED ON TOP OF IT. EACH PILOT STATED THAT HE ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTIONS, BUT EACH PILOT STATED THAT HE DID NOT HEAR THE OTHER.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: MIDAIR COLLISION

Phase of Operation: LANDING

Findings

1. (C) VISUAL LOOKOUT - NOT PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) VISUAL LOOKOUT - NOT PERFORMED - PILOT OF OTHER AIRCRAFT

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor; Private	Age:	39, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	November 1, 1986
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	14000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1000 hours (Total, this make and model), 200 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 83 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N4496C
Model/Series:	195A 195A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	16080
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	December 17, 1985 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3350 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	35 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	JACOBS
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	R-755-B2
Registered Owner:	F. V. DE PEYSTER	Rated Power:	275 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:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	APC ,33 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	17 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	16:45 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	24°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 3000 ft AGL	Visibility	15 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 20000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	12 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	210°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	00:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	SMITHS RANCH CA35	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	5 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	22	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2138 ft / 30 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Straight-in

Wreckage and Impact Information

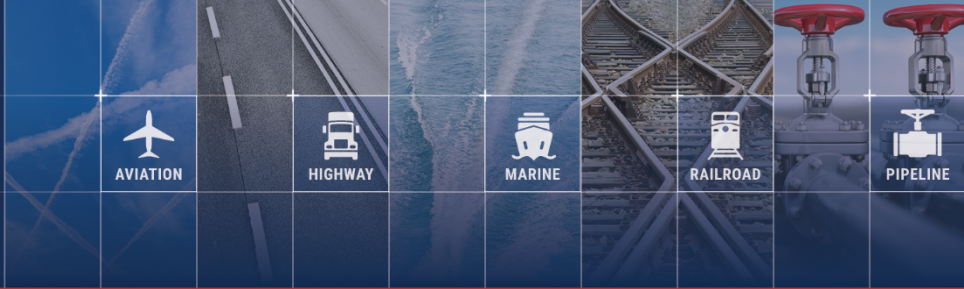
Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	37.969554,-122.500106(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Schutte, Audrey
Additional Participating Persons:	JACK HOCKER; OAKLAND , CA
Original Publish Date:	
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=25131

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](#).



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	SAN RAFAEL, California	Accident Number:	LAX86LA189
Date & Time:	April 23, 1986, 15:50 Local	Registration:	N3947N
Aircraft:	BEECH 35	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE TWO AIRCRAFT COLLIDED ON THE RUNWAY DURING LANDING APPROACH. THE CESSNA PILOT HAD WASHED HIS AIRCRAFT AND HAD MADE A LOCAL FLIGHT TO DRY IT OFF. THE BEECK PILOT WAS RETURNING FROM A NEARBY AIRPORT WHERE AN ANNUAL INSPECTION HAD BEEN PERFORMED. WITNESSES STATED THAT THE CESSNA HAD LANDED AND WAS ROLLING ON THE RUNWAY WHEN THE BEECK LANDED ON TOP OF IT. EACH PILOT STATED THAT HE ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTIONS, BUT EACH PILOT STATED THAT HE DID NOT HEAR THE OTHER.

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Phase of Operation: LANDING

Findings

1. (C) VISUAL LOOKOUT - NOT PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) VISUAL LOOKOUT - NOT PERFORMED - PILOT OF OTHER AIRCRAFT

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	40, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-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:	June 11, 1985
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	354 hours (Total, all aircraft), 263 hours (Total, this make and model), 297 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BEECH	Registration:	N3947N
Model/Series:	35 35	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal; Utility	Serial Number:	D1206
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	April 22, 1986 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1972 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	1 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	4580 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	E185
Registered Owner:	DUANE C. HUGHES	Rated Power:	185 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

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Observation Facility, Elevation:	APC ,33 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	17 Nautical Miles
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Wind Direction:	210°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	NOVATO , CA (056)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	15:40 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	SMITHS RANCH CA35	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
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Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	37.969554,-122.500106(est)

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