



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	OATMAN, Arizona	<b>Accident Number:</b>	LAX87LA131
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	February 28, 1987, 11:10 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N4786B
<b>Aircraft:</b>	CESSNA 180	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	3 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation		

## Analysis

AT THE END OF A CROSS-COUNTRY FLIGHT, THE PILOT REPORTED THAT WHILE ON FINAL APPROACH, THE AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED MODERATE TURBULENCE. THE PILOT SET UP FOR A FULL STALL TO LAND IN A THREE POINT ATTITUDE. DURING THE FLARE, A GUST OF WIND FROM THE RIGHT REAR BLEW THE AIRCRAFT TO THE LEFT OF THE RUNWAY. THE PILOT ADDED POWER TO REGAIN CONTROL WHEN THE AIRCRAFT RAN OFF THE RUNWAY AND COLLIDED WITH THE TERRAIN.

## Probable Cause and Findings

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

### Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

#### Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - GUSTS
  2. (F) WIND INFORMATION - NOT ATTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
  3. (F) COMPENSATION FOR WIND CONDITIONS - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
  4. (C) AIRCRAFT HANDLING - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

5. (F) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

6. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - DIRT BANK/RISING EMBANKMENT

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	47, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<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>	July 22, 1986
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	No	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	371 hours (Total, all aircraft), 286 hours (Total, this make and model), 273 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 25 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	CESSNA	<b>Registration:</b>	N4786B
<b>Model/Series:</b>	180 180	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	31684
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	June 9, 1986 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2550 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	25 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	2549 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	CONTINENTAL
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-470J
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	FRANK J. MONTONATI	<b>Rated Power:</b>	230 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>		<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>	EED ,990 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	20 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	10:52 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	205°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Scattered / 25000 ft AGL	<b>Visibility</b>	45 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	10 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	0°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	9°C / -3°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	PRESCOTT , AZ (PRC )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	OATMAN , AZ	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	10:15 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	WHITE CHIEF MINE	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Gravel
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	2500 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	0	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	1500 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Traffic pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	2 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	3 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	34.920196,-114.350013(est)

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Eckrote, Debra

**Additional Participating Persons:** BILL OZANUS; SCOTTSDALE, AZ

**Original Publish Date:** March 21, 1988

**Last Revision Date:**

**Investigation Class:** [Class](#)

**Note:**

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=25532>

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