



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: CHINO, California Accident Number: LAX88LA021

Date & Time: October 22, 1987, 11:07 Local Registration: N423T

Aircraft: BEECH 35-A33 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** 2 Minor

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation

### **Analysis**

THE PILOT AND PASSENGER BOTH STATED THAT THE ENGINE LOST ALL POWER DURING THE FINAL APPROACH FOR LANDING. THE PASSENGER SWITCHED THE FUEL TANK SELECTOR FROM THE LEFT TO THE RIGHT TANK. THERE WAS NOT TIME TO ATTEMPT A RESTART. HE THEN RAISED THE LANDING GEAR SO THAT THE AIRCRAFT WOULD GLIDE FARTHER. THEY WERE UNABLE TO MAKE IT TO THE RUNWAY AND FORCE LANDED IN A FIELD. AN EXAMINATION OF THE WRECKAGE REVEALED THAT THERE WAS NO FUEL IN THE LEFT FUEL TANK. THERE WERE NO REPORTED MECHANICAL PROBLEMS PRIOR TO THE ACCIDENT.

### **Probable Cause and Findings**

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

#### **Findings**

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - FINAL APPROACH

#### **Findings**

- 1. (C) FUEL CONSUMPTION CALCULATIONS NOT PERFORMED PILOT IN COMMAND
- 2. (C) FUEL SYSTEM, SELECTOR/VALVE NOT SWITCHED
- 3. (C) FUEL SYSTEM, TANK EXHAUSTION

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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

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Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

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## **Factual Information**

#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Private	Age:	68,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medicalw/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 8, 1987
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1295 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1295 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 15 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

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## **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

Aircraft Make:	BEECH	Registration:	N423T
Model/Series:	35-A33 35-A33	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	CD284
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3978 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	IO-470-J
Registered Owner:	GLEN R MESSINGER	Rated Power:	225 Horsepower
Operator:	GREY EAGLE AVIATION	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:	CNO ,650 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	11:00 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	4 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 9000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	0°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	N/A - None - Haze		
Departure Point:	(CNO)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	(CNO)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	11:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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## **Airport Information**

Airport:	CHINO CNO	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Airport Elevation:		<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced landing

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Leighton, Russell	
Additional Participating Persons:	MORGAN R RODNEY; RIVERSIDE , CA	
Original Publish Date:	October 6, 1988	
Last Revision Date:		
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>	
Note:		
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=25889	

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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