



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	HOLLISTER, California	Accident Number:	LAX89LA234
Date & Time:	July 9, 1989, 14:30 Local	Registration:	N23916
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-38-112	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

THE FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR INITIATED A SIMULATED ENGINE FAILURE AT 3500 FEET ABOVE MEAN SEA LEVEL. THE STUDENT PERFORMED THE EMERGENCY PROCEDURES BUT WHEN HE TURNED FINAL HE WAS TOO HIGH TO LAND ON THE RUNWAY. THE FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR TOOK CONTROL OF THE AIRPLANE AND INTENDED TO MAKE ANOTHER 360 DEGREE PRIOR TO LANDING. AS SOON AS THE AIRPLANE ENTERED THE BANK, IT STALLED. THE FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR ATTEMPTED TO RECOVER BY APPLYING FULL POWER BUT THE AIRPLANE DID NOT RETURN TO LEVEL FLIGHT PRIOR TO STRIKING THE GROUND.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR'S FAILURE TO TAKE CORRECTIVE ACTION IN SUFFICIENT TIME TO PREVENT THE AIRPLANE FROM STRIKING THE GROUND.

Findings

Occurrence #1: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Findings

1. (F) EMERGENCY PROCEDURE - SIMULATED - PILOT IN COMMAND(CFI)
2. (C) PLANNED APPROACH - POOR - DUAL STUDENT

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

3. (C) SUPERVISION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND(CFI)
4. (C) AIRSPEED - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND(CFI)

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	63, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical-w/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	February 3, 1989
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	9100 hours (Total, all aircraft), 10 hours (Total, this make and model), 12 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N23916
Model/Series:	PA-38-112 PA-38-112	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	38-79A1065
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	June 30, 1989 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1670 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	7 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2048 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-235-L2C
Registered Owner:	MICHAEL J DUNLAP	Rated Power:	110 Horsepower
Operator:	DUNLAP, MICHAEL J	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:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	25 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots / 8 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	340°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	20°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	SAN CARLOS , CA (SQL)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	HOLLISTER , CA	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	09:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Airport advisory area

Airport Information

Airport:	FRAZIER LAKE AIRPARK	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	151 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	25	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2500 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Simulated forced landing

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	36.889896,-121.240028(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Wilcox, Thomas
Additional Participating Persons:	GEORGE KOBELNYK; ANCHORAGE , AK
Original Publish Date:	March 29, 1991
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=26443

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