

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: DUNCAN, Arizona Accident Number: LAX91LA295

Date & Time: July 5, 1991, 17:45 Local Registration: N3625A

Aircraft: PIPER PA 22 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

THE PILOT WAS ATTEMPTING TO LAND IN WHAT HE TERMED A 'RELATIVELY UNFAMILIAR' AIRCRAFT TO A PRIVATE DIRT STRIP ON HIS FARM. ON THE FIRST ATTEMPT, HE ENCOUNTERED A DOWNDRAFT, CAUSING HIM TO PERFORM A GO AROUND. ON THE SECOND ATTEMPT, THE AIRCRAFT'S AIRSPEED SLOWED. THE PILOT APPLIED FULL POWER, BUT HE SAID THAT THE POWER APPLICATION AGGRAVATED THE SITUATION. THE AIRCRAFT LANDED HARD ABOUT 30 FEET SHORT OF THE DIRT STRIP, HIT A FENCE, AND NOSED OVER.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S FAILURE TO MAINTAIN A PROPER AIRSPEED DURING THE APPROACH AND AN INADVERTENT ENTRY INTO A STALL/MUSH WHICH RESULTED IN A HARD LANDING.

Findings

Occurrence #1: HARD LANDING

Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

- 1. (C) AIRSPEED NOT MAINTAINED PILOT IN COMMAND
- 2. (C) STALL/MUSH INADVERTENT PILOT IN COMMAND
- 3. WEATHER CONDITION DOWNDRAFT

Occurrence #2: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

4. OBJECT - FENCE

Occurrence #3: NOSE OVER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

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Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	49,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medicalw/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 21, 1991
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 18 hours (Total, this make and model), 18 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 18 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N3625A
Model/Series:	PA 22 PA 22	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	22-1883
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	January 2, 2000 Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1950 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-290-D2
Registered Owner:	KELLY D. CAMBERN	Rated Power:	135 Horsepower
Operator:	KELLY D. CAMBERN	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
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	40 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	15 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	90°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipi	tation	
Departure Point:	GLENDALE , AZ (GEU)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	16:45 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	PRIVATE STRIP NONE	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Airport Elevation:	4000 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	1	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2000 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	32.760128,-109.070297(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Childress, Richard

Additional Participating PETER CRUISINIER; SCOTTSDALE, AZ Persons:

Original Publish Date: March 24, 1993

Last Revision Date: Investigation Class: Class
Note: https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=27276

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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