



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	STRAIGHTS OF FL, Florida	<b>Accident Number:</b>	MIA87LA073
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	January 12, 1987, 19:45 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N1204V
<b>Aircraft:</b>	CESSNA 310J	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	2 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

THE PLT STATED THAT THE FLT DEPARTED GRAND CAYMEN, ON JANUARY 12, 1987, AT APRX 1600 EST. APRX 3 HRS INTO THE FLT THE C.H.T & EXHAUST TEMPERATURES HIT RED LINE ON THE LEFT ENG FOLLOWING A LOSS OF OIL PRESSURE. HE SECURED THE ENG & THEN NOTICED FUEL BEING SIPHONED OVERBOARD THROUGH THE LEFT MAIN FUEL CAP. THE FUEL SUPPLY WAS EXHAUSTED & THE ACFT WAS DITCHED IN THE STRAITS OF FLORIDA APRX 82 STATUE MILES & 235 DEGS FROM KEY WEST INTL ARPT. ACCORDING TO THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVTN, CAYMEN ISLANDS, B.W.I., NO RECORD COULD BE FOUND REGARDING THE DEPARTURE OF N1204V ON JANUARY 12, 1987 FROM GRAND CAYMEN. THE ACFT HAS NOT BEEN RECOVERED THEREFORE NO DETERMINATION COULD BE MADE AS TO THE MALFUNCTION OF THE ENG OR LOSS OF FUEL AS DESCRIBED BY THE PLT.

## Probable Cause and Findings

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

### Findings

Occurrence #1: AIRFRAME/COMPONENT/SYSTEM FAILURE/MALFUNCTION  
Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

#### Findings

1. FUEL SYSTEM - UNDETERMINED

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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

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Occurrence #3: DITCHING  
Phase of Operation: LANDING

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	44, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land; Multi-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>	January 14, 1986
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	720 hours (Total, all aircraft), 127 hours (Total, this make and model)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	CESSNA	<b>Registration:</b>	N1204V
<b>Model/Series:</b>	310J 310J	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	310J0035
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Retractable - Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	6
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	June 1, 1986 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	5100 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	85 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	2 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	3700 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	CONTINENTAL
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	I0-470-U
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	JOHN M. MCNAMARA	<b>Rated Power:</b>	260 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>	Night/bright
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	EYW ,4 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	65 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	19:50 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	60°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	11 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	350°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	15°C / 12°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>		<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	WINTER HAVEN , FL (GIF )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	00:00 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Water
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	0 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Water-calm
<b>Runway Used:</b>	0	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	0 ft / 0 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Forced landing

## Wreckage and Impact Information

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

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Monville, Timothy

**Additional Participating Persons:**

**Original Publish Date:** March 30, 1988

**Last Revision Date:**

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

**Note:**

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=31848>

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