



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	BEMIDJI, Minnesota	Accident Number:	MKC89LA141
Date & Time:	June 21, 1989, 16:28 Local	Registration:	N6513Y
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-23-250	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE PILOT REPORTED THAT WHEN HE RETURNED TO THE AIRPORT TO LAND, A LINE OF DARK CLOUDS WAS NEXT TO THE DOWNWIND LEG FOR RUNWAY 31. DURING THE FINAL APPROACH SEGMENT, THE AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED HEAVY RAIN AND TURBULENCE. INITIALLY, THE PILOT ATTEMPTED A GO-AROUND, THEN DECIDED TO CONTINUE THE LANDING. DURING THE LANDING, STRONG/GUSTY WINDS WERE ENCOUNTERED AND THE AIRCRAFT TOUCHED DOWN ON THE ADJACENT GRASS AREA. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE AIRCRAFT WAS DAMAGED WHEN IT CROSSED A DITCH AND CAME TO REST ON A PUBLIC ROAD.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE CONTINUED APPROACH AND LANDING BY THE PILOT IN KNOWN ADVERSE WEATHER. CONTRIBUTING FACTORS WERE THE WEATHER CONDITIONS AND THE DITCH.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER
Phase of Operation: LANDING

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - RAIN
2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - GUSTS

3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - TURBULENCE(THUNDERSTORMS)
4. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - UNFAVORABLE WIND
5. (C) FLIGHT INTO KNOWN ADVERSE WEATHER - CONTINUED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING

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

Findings

6. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - DITCH

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	51, 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:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	August 9, 1988
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	6550 hours (Total, all aircraft), 90 hours (Total, this make and model), 6500 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 62 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 14 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N6513Y
Model/Series:	PA-23-250 PA-23-250	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	27-3804
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	June 15, 1989 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	5200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	20 Hrs	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-540-C4B5
Registered Owner:	BEMIDJI AVIATION SERVICE INC	Rated Power:	250 Horsepower
Operator:	BEMIDJI AVIATION SERVICE, INC.	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:	BJI ,1389 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	16:40 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	250°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 800 ft AGL	Visibility	5 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 4000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	15 knots / 25 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	330°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	23°C / 22°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	N/A - None - Fog		
Departure Point:	(BJI)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	15:50 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	BEMIDJI BJI	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1389 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Wet
Runway Used:	31	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	6598 ft / 150 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:	47.249359,-91.290039(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Hruban, John

Additional Participating Persons: O T FRAMPTON;

Original Publish Date: April 19, 1990

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: [Class](#)

Note:

Investigation Docket: <https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=34816>

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