



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	FOUKE, Arkansas	Accident Number:	MKC89LA173
Date & Time:	July 31, 1989, 21:00 Local	Registration:	N6249U
Aircraft:	MOONEY M20C	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE PLT SAID THAT PRIOR TO DEPARTING HIS LAST STOP, HE WAS UNABLE TO PURCHASE FUEL AS THE ARPT WAS UNATTENDED AT THE TIME. CONTINUING ON WITHOUT REFUELING, THE ENGINE QUIT ABOUT 15 MILES FROM HIS DESTINATION AIRPORT. AN EMERGENCY LANDING WAS ATTEMPTED, DURING A DARK NIGHT, AND THE ACFT STRUCK A FENCE, THEN SPUN AROUND CAUSING THE RIGHT MAIN GEAR TO COLLAPSE. POST FLIGHT INVESTIGATION REVEALED THE FUEL TANKS TO BE EMPTY OF USABLE FUEL.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S INACCURATE FUEL CONSUMPTION CALCULATIONS WHICH RESULTED IN FUEL EXHAUSTION, AT NIGHT. THE ENSUING FORCED LANDING RESULTED IN A COLLISION WITH A FENCEPOST, GROUND SWERVE, AND COLLAPSE OF THE RIGHT MAIN LANDING GEAR.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION
2. (C) PLANNING/DECISION - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) FUEL CONSUMPTION CALCULATIONS - MISJUDGED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: LANDING

Findings

- 4. OBJECT - FENCE POST
 - 5. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT
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Occurrence #4: MAIN GEAR COLLAPSED
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	29, 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):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical-w/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	November 19, 1987
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	513 hours (Total, all aircraft), 309 hours (Total, this make and model), 423 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 86 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 28 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	MOONEY	Registration:	N6249U
Model/Series:	M20C M20C	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	2088
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2400 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360-A1A
Registered Owner:	UNKNOWN	Rated Power:	180 Horsepower
Operator:	MOORE, CLINTON H.	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:	Night/dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	TXK ,389 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	15 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	21:50 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	330°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown	Visibility	5 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 15000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	30°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	27°C / 24°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	N/A - None - Haze		
Departure Point:	CLEVELAND , MS (RNV)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	TEXARKANA , AR (TXK)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	19:45 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	NONE	Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:	400 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced landing

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	33.259815,-93.879859(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Hruban, John

Additional Participating Persons: EARL NEWBERRY;

Original Publish Date: August 22, 1990

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: [Class](#)

Note:

Investigation Docket: <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=34842>

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