



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: DELAWARE, Ohio Accident Number: NYC91LA146

Date & Time: June 1, 1991, 20:00 Local Registration: N2858N

Aircraft: CESSNA 120 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

AT ABOUT 30 FEET ABOVE THE GROUND AFTER A TOUCH AND GO LANDING, THE ENGINE LOST POWER. THE PILOT PULLED CARBURETOR HEAT AND THE ENGINE POWER RESUMED MOMENTARILY, THEN POWER WAS LOST AGAIN. HE PERFORMED A FORCED LANDING IN TREES. THE TEMPERATURE WAS 85 DEGREES F AND DEW POINT 69 DEGREES F. THIS TEMPERATURE/DEW POINT COMBINATION WAS CONDUCIVE TO CARBURETOR ICING.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: CARBURETOR ICE AND THE PILOT IN COMMAND'S IMPROPER USE OF CARBURETOR HEAT. A FACTOR IN THE ACCIDENT WAS THE CARBURETOR ICING CONDITIONS.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. WEATHER CONDITION - CARBURETOR ICING CONDITIONS

2. (C) FUEL SYSTEM, CARBURETOR - ICE

3. CARBURETOR HEAT - IMPROPER USE OF - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: LANDING

Findings 4. OBJECT - TREE(S)

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Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	40,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 3 Valid Medicalw/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	January 3, 1991
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	750 hours (Total, all aircraft), 500 hours (Total, this make and model), 700 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N2858N
Model/Series:	120 120	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	13119
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	January 2, 2000 Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1450 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	C-85-12F
Registered Owner:	DAVID H. BIRCH	Rated Power:	85 Horsepower
Operator:	DAVID H. BIRCH	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:	Dusk
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	135°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	29°C / 21°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipit	ation	
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	20:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	DELAWARE DL2	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	950 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	28	IFR Approach:	
Runway Length/Width:	3500 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced landing

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:	40.290531,-83.080856(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Yurman, Alan

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date: March 31, 1993

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: Class

Note:

Investigation Docket: https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=36934

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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