



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	MEMPHIS, Tennessee	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ATL96LA112
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	July 22, 1996, 18:10 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N3122C
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Cessna 180	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot was cleared to land on runway 27 at Memphis International Airport. About 1-1/2 miles east of the airport the pilot reported a loss of engine power. The pilot made a forced landing in a parking lot and collided with an automobile and a fence before coming to rest. An inspection revealed that the gascolator was missing, and the required safetywire for the gascolator was not found. The last inspection of the engine was done during the annual inspection in July of 1995. The aircraft had been flown 86 hours since the annual inspection.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: Inadequate annual inspection that resulted in the in-flight loss of the fuel system strainer and subsequent fuel starvation. A factor was the lack of suitable terrain for a forced landing.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - MECH FAILURE/MALF  
Phase of Operation: APPROACH

### Findings

1. (C) FUEL SYSTEM,GASCOLATOR - NOT SAFETIED
  2. (C) MAINTENANCE,INSPECTION - INADEQUATE - OTHER MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL
  3. FUEL SYSTEM,GASCOLATOR - MISSING
  4. (C) FLUID,FUEL - STARVATION
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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING  
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY LANDING

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

Findings

5. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - NONE SUITABLE
6. OBJECT - FENCE
7. OBJECT - VEHICLE

## Factual Information

On July 22, 1996, at 1810 central daylight time a Cessna 180, N3122C, collided with a parked automobile and a fence, and was substantially damaged following a forced landing near Memphis International Airport, Memphis, Tennessee. The airline transport pilot was not injured. The personal flight was being conducted under the provisions of Title 14 CFR Part 91 by the pilot. Visual meteorological conditions existed at the time of the accident, and a flight plan was not filed for the cross country flight. The flight departed Griffin-Spalding County Airport, Griffin, Georgia at 1630 eastern daylight time.

According to the FAA inspector, the pilot was cleared to land on runway 27 at Memphis International Airport. About 1 1/2 miles to the east of the airport the pilot reported a loss of engine power. The pilot made a forced landing in a parking lot and collided with an automobile and a fence before coming to rest. The airplane received damage to the wings, fuselage, and right horizontal stabilizer. An inspection by the FAA inspector revealed that the gascolator was missing, and the required safetywire for the gascolator was not found. The last inspection of the engine was done during the annual inspection in July of 1995. The aircraft had been flown 86 hours since the annual inspection.

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Airline transport	<b>Age:</b>	33, 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>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 1 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	March 4, 1996
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	5000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 250 hours (Total, this make and model), 3500 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 45 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Cessna	<b>Registration:</b>	N3122C
<b>Model/Series:</b>	180 180	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	30921
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	July 1, 1995 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2800 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	86 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	3000 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Continental
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-470J
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	STEPHEN C. FENNER	<b>Rated Power:</b>	225 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>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	MEM ,332 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	1 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	18:19 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	270°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	15 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	7 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	220°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	29 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	34°C / 24°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	GRIFFIN , GA (6A2 )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	(MEM )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	VFR
<b>Departure Time:</b>	16:50 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class C

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	
<b>Runway Used:</b>	0	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>		<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>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Hicks, Preston
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	DOYLE    FERGUSON;
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	February 18, 1997
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=3747">https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=3747</a>

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