



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	TOWNSEND, Montana	<b>Accident Number:</b>	SEA91LA208
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	August 16, 1991, 07:45 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N1645G
<b>Aircraft:</b>	CHAMPION                      7GCAA	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Minor, 1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

## Analysis

SUBSEQUENT TO A SIMULATED POWER LOSS AND FORCED LANDING CONDUCTED BY THE PILOT UNDER INSTRUCTION, THE INSTRUCTOR PILOT TOOK CONTROL OF THE AIRCRAFT AND COMMENCED A DEMONSTRATION OF THE ALTITUDE LOST DURING AN ATTEMPTED TURN BACK TO THE FIELD. DURING THE MANEUVER THE INSTRUCTOR PILOT ALLOWED THE AIRSPEED TO DECAY BELOW THE POWER OFF STALL SPEED AND THE AIRCRAFT STALLED. INSUFFICIENT ALTITUDE WAS AVAILABLE TO ENABLE A SUCCESSFUL RECOVERY BEFORE THE AIRCRAFT COLLIDED WITH THE GROUND.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE INSTRUCTOR PILOT'S NOT MAINTAINING THE POWER OFF STALL SPEED RESULTING IN A STALL CONDITION. A FACTOR CONTRIBUTING TO THE ACCIDENT WAS THE LACK OF SUFFICIENT ALTITUDE TO ENABLE A SUCCESSFUL RECOVERY FROM THE STALL.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT  
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - TURN TO LANDING AREA (EMERGENCY)

- Findings
1. (C) AIRSPEED - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND(CFI)
  2. (C) STALL/MUSH - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND(CFI)

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Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Findings

3. (F) ALTITUDE - INADEQUATE

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial; Flight instructor	<b>Age:</b>	42, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Unknown
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	Yes
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	Airplane single-engine	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	December 15, 1990
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	685 hours (Total, all aircraft), 96 hours (Total, this make and model), 631 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 95 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 28 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	CHAMPION	<b>Registration:</b>	N1645G
<b>Model/Series:</b>	7GCAA 7GCAA	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>		<b>Serial Number:</b>	63
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	Unknown	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	1650 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	0 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>		<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	LYCOMING
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-320-E2D
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	DONALD C. DOLAN	<b>Rated Power:</b>	150 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	DONALD C. DOLAN	<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>	HLN ,3873 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	19 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	07:50 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	288°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	40 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	4 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	110°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>		<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	14°C / 8°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	HELENA , MT (HLN )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>		<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	07:10 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	CANYON FERRY 8U9	<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>	Simulated forced landing;Traffic pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Minor, 1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<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 Minor, 1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	46.480033,-111.340141(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Mccreary, Steven
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	P. FLOOD; HELENA , MT
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	May 5, 1993
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=41512">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=41512</a>

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