



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	KENAI, Alaska	Accident Number:	ANC88LA049
Date & Time:	April 23, 1988, 10:28 Local	Registration:	N86128
Aircraft:	CESSNA 337D	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

THE PRIVATE PILOT WAS PRACTICING SIMULATED INSTRUMENT FLIGHT WITH HIS FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR IN THEIR MUTUALLY-OWNED AIRPLANE, WHEN BOTH ENGINES QUIT WITHIN MINUTES OF EACH OTHER DUE TO FUEL EXHAUSTION. THE AIRPLANE STRUCK TREES IN THE ENSUING EMERGENCY DESCENT PRIOR TO REACHING THE SELECTED LANDING AREA AND WAS SUBSTANTIALLY DAMAGED. NEITHER OF THE PILOTS WERE INJURED. THE FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR HAD CONDUCTED THE PREFLIGHT INSPECTION, AND HAD VISUALLY INSPECTED THE FUEL TANKS PRIOR TO THE START OF THE FLIGHT, AND ALTHOUGH THE TANKS WERE LESS THAN FULL, HE FELT THAT A SUFFICIENT QUANTITY REMAINED FOR THE INTENDED FLIGHT. BOTH PILOTS SAID THAT THE FUEL GAUGES INDICATED ONE-QUARTER FULL WHEN THE ENGINES STOPPED.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

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

Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION

2. (C) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND(CFI)
 3. (F) ENGINE INSTRUMENTS,FUEL QUANTITY GAGE - FALSE INDICATION
 4. (C) FUEL SUPPLY - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND(CFI)
 5. AIRCRAFT PERFORMANCE,TWO OR MORE ENGINES - FAILURE,TOTAL
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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - FINAL APPROACH

Findings
6. OBJECT - TREE(S)

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	36, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	November 2, 1987
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	318 hours (Total, all aircraft), 158 hours (Total, this make and model), 281 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 26 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N86128
Model/Series:	337D 337D	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	3371089
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	September 9, 1987 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	4430 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	43 Hrs	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1662 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, activated, aided in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360-C
Registered Owner:	LEE, GARY E	Rated Power:	210 Horsepower
Operator:	LEE, GARY E.	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:	ENA ,92 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	17 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	10:52 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	210°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	2500 ft AGL	Visibility	50 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	0°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	5°C / -2°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	ANCHORAGE , AK (MRI)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	08:48 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	SWANSON RIVER 8AK8	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	200 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Vegetation
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced landing

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	60.659011,-150.899185(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Labelle, James

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date: April 25, 1989

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: [Class](#)

Note:

Investigation Docket: <https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=5001>

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