



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	TUNTUTULIAK, Alaska	Accident Number:	ANC88LA058
Date & Time:	May 16, 1988, 16:00 Local	Registration:	N1592F
Aircraft:	CESSNA 185E	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation		

Analysis

THE PRIVATE PILOT-IN-COMMAND OF THE CESSNA 185 WAS PERFORMING BUSINESS FLYING FOR THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION. WHEN HE RAN OUT OF FUEL DURING A CROSS COUNTRY FLIGHT, HE ATTEMPTED AN OFF-AIRPORT FORCED LANDING WHICH RESULTED IN A NOSEOVER ACCIDENT. THE PLT FAILED TO FILE A REPORT. THE HELICOPTER CREW THAT RESCUED HIM REPORTED THAT THE ACFT APPEARED TO BE SUBSTANTIALLY DAMAGED.

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) PLANNING/DECISION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
 3. (C) FUEL SUPPLY - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Occurrence #3: NOSE OVER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	32, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea	Seat Occupied:	Left
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--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	July 21, 1987
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	2200 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N1592F
Model/Series:	185E 185E	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	185-0974
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	IO-520-D
Registered Owner:	THOM ALFRED FISCHER	Rated Power:	300 Horsepower
Operator:		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:	BET	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	15:57 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown	Visibility	40 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 3500 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	14 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	20°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	9°C / 1°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	Light - Showers - Rain		
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	00:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	Dirt;Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	Vegetation;Wet
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Straight-in

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:	60.410713,-162.64978(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Stella, Marc

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date: April 25, 1989

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: [Class](#)

Note:

Investigation Docket: <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=5006>

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](#).