



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	KOTZEBUE, Alaska	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ANC91LA044
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	April 1, 1991, 14:30 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N1376H
<b>Aircraft:</b>	AERONCA 15AC	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	2 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

WHILE IN CRUISE FLIGHT, THE ENGINE QUIT. DURING THE EMERGENCY LANDING ON THE TUNDRA, THE AIRPLANE NOSED OVER ONTO ITS BACK. EXAMINATION OF THE FUEL SYSTEM REVEALED WATER WAS FOUND IN BOTH FUEL LINES AND FUEL TANKS.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: FUEL CONTAMINATION (WATER) IN BOTH FUEL TANKS AND FUEL LINES.

## Findings

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

### Findings

1. (C) FUEL SYSTEM,LINE - CONTAMINATION
2. (C) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) FUEL SYSTEM,TANK - CONTAMINATION
4. (C) FUEL SYSTEM,LINE - WATER

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

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

Findings

5. (C) TERRAIN CONDITION - SNOW COVERED
6. (C) TERRAIN CONDITION - ROUGH/UNEVEN

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	54, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 2 Valid Medical-w/ waivers/lim	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	July 10, 1989
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	715 hours (Total, all aircraft), 210 hours (Total, this make and model), 3 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	AERONCA	<b>Registration:</b>	N1376H
<b>Model/Series:</b>	15AC 15AC	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	425
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	August 3, 1990 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2050 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	21 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>		<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	CONTINENTAL
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	C-142-2
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	LARRY VILLERS	<b>Rated Power:</b>	145 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	LARRY VILLERS	<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>		<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>		<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	50 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	15 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	80°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	-26°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>		<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>		<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	13:00 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	

## 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>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	2 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	67.239517,-161.190963(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Michelangelo, James
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	MANAGER AL CROOK; FAIRBANKS , AK
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	May 7, 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=5532">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=5532</a>

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