



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: FAIRBANKS, Alaska Accident Number: ANC91LA078

Date & Time: June 21, 1991, 00:07 Local Registration: N40304

Aircraft: MAULE M4-220-C Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

SHORTLY AFTER LIFTOFF, THE AIRPLANE CRASHED IN A WOODED AREA NEXT TO THE AIRPORT. AFTER THE ACCIDENT, IT WAS REVEALED THAT BOTH FLOATS HAD A LARGE AMOUNT OF WATER IN THEM. THE PIC STATED HE BELIEVED THAT THE AIRPLANE WAS OVER GROSS WEIGHT BY 200 POUNDS.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S FAILURE TO MAINTAIN AIRSPEED DURING THE INITIAL CLIMB AND EXCEEDING THE GROSS WEIGHT OF THE AIRPLANE. CONTRIBUTING TO THE ACCIDENT WAS HIGH VEGETATION.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. STALL/MUSH - PILOT IN COMMAND

2. (C) AIRSPEED - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

3. (C) AIRCRAFT WEIGHT AND BALANCE - EXCEEDED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings
4. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - HIGH VEGETATION

Page 2 of 6 ANC91LA078

Factual Information

Pilot Information

| Certificate: | Private | Age: | 44,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 3 Valid Medicalw/ waivers/lim | Last FAA Medical Exam: | August 29, 1990 |
| Occupational Pilot: | UNK | Last Flight Review or Equivalent: | |
| Flight Time: | 478 hours (Total, all aircraft), 11 hours (Total, this make and model), 448 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 44 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft) | | |

Page 3 of 6 ANC91LA078

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

| Aircraft Make: | MAULE | Registration: | N40304 |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Model/Series: | M4-220-C M4-220-C | Aircraft Category: | Airplane |
| Year of Manufacture: | | Amateur Built: | |
| Airworthiness Certificate: | Normal | Serial Number: | 2078C |
| Landing Gear Type: | Float | Seats: | 4 |
| Date/Type of Last Inspection: | June 13, 1991 Annual | Certified Max Gross Wt.: | 2300 lbs |
| Time Since Last Inspection: | 1 Hrs | Engines: | 1 Reciprocating |
| Airframe Total Time: | 425 Hrs | Engine Manufacturer: | FRANKLIN |
| ELT: | Installed, not activated | Engine Model/Series: | GA-350-C1 |
| Registered Owner: | | Rated Power: | 220 Horsepower |
| Operator: | MAX C. LYON JR. | 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: | FAI ,430 ft msl | Distance from Accident Site: | 1 Nautical Miles |
| Observation Time: | 00:07 Local | Direction from Accident Site: | 270° |
| Lowest Cloud Condition: | Clear | Visibility | 80 miles |
| Lowest Ceiling: | None | Visibility (RVR): | |
| Wind Speed/Gusts: | 6 knots / | Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual: | / |
| Wind Direction: | 300° | Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual: | / |
| Altimeter Setting: | 30 inches Hg | Temperature/Dew Point: | 24°C / 8°C |
| Precipitation and Obscuration: | No Obscuration; No Precipit | ation | |
| Departure Point: | | Type of Flight Plan Filed: | None |
| Destination: | NOWITNA RIVER , AK (NONE) | Type of Clearance: | None |
| Departure Time: | 00:07 Local | Type of Airspace: | Class G |
| | | | |

Page 4 of 6 ANC91LA078

Airport Information

| Airport: | FAIRBANKS INT'L AIRPORT FAI | Runway Surface Type: | Water |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------|
| Airport Elevation: | 450 ft msl | Runway Surface Condition: | Water-calm |
| Runway Used: | 1 | IFR Approach: | None |
| Runway Length/Width: | 5400 ft / 150 ft | VFR Approach/Landing: | None |

Wreckage and Impact Information

| Crew Injuries: | 1 None | Aircraft Damage: | Substantial |
|------------------------|--------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Passenger Injuries: | 1 None | Aircraft Fire: | None |
| Ground Injuries: | N/A | Aircraft Explosion: | None |
| Total Injuries: | 2 None | Latitude, Longitude: | 64.810829,-147.71997(est) |

Page 5 of 6 ANC91LA078

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Michelangelo, James **Additional Participating** ROBERT SHEPARD; FAIRBANKS , AK DAVE SMITH: FAIRBANKS Persons: **Original Publish Date:** March 31, 1993 **Last Revision Date: Investigation Class:** Class Note: **Investigation Docket:** https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=5562

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.

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Page 6 of 6 ANC91LA078