



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	ATHENS, Georgia	Accident Number:	ATL86FA132
Date & Time:	May 17, 1986, 16:30 Local	Registration:	N2592U
Aircraft:	CESSNA 172D	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Fatal, 1 Serious, 1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

DURING THE RETURN FROM A LOCAL SIGHTSEEING FLIGHT, THE PILOT REPORTED OVER THE UNICOM THAT THEY WERE MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROACH AND WERE OUT OF FUEL. AN INTERVIEW WITH ONE OF THE NON-PILOT PASSENGERS REVEALED THAT PRIOR TO THE FLIGHT THEY DISCUSSED REFUELING THE AIRCRAFT WITH THE PILOT WHO STATED THAT THEY HAD ENOUGH FUEL FOR THE TRIP. INSPECTION OF THE WRECKAGE CONFIRMED ONE TABLESPOON OF FUEL REMAINED IN THE MAIN FUEL SUPPLY LINE.

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

Findings

1. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION
3. (C) FUEL SUPPLY - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Findings

4. OBJECT - TREE(S)

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

5. TERRAIN CONDITION - GROUND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	22,Female
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	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 1 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	December 21, 1984
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	160 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N2592U
Model/Series:	172D 172D	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal; Utility	Serial Number:	172-50192
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	December 21, 1985 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	18 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2018 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-300-D
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	145 Horsepower
Operator:	MIKE M.BLONDEAU	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:	AHN ,807 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	2 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	16:51 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	135°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 5500 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	11 knots / None	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	210°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	29°C / 14°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	ATHENS (AHN)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	15:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	ATHENS MUNI AHN	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	807 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	9	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4989 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Fatal, 1 Serious, 1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	33.91077,-83.319305(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Coleman, Ben

Additional Participating Persons: RUBY GUINN; HAPEVILLE, GA

Original Publish Date:

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: [Class](#)

Note:

Investigation Docket: <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=6940>

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](#).