



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	KEY WEST, Florida	Accident Number:	MIA82DA063
Date & Time:	March 4, 1982, 20:44 Local	Registration:	N6958L
Aircraft:	CESSNA 310K	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation		

Analysis

THE AIRCRAFT WAS LANDED WITH THE GEAR RETRACTED. THE PILOT REPORTED THAT HE WAS DISTRACTED BY ANOTHER AIRCRAFT IN THE PATTERN AND FAILED TO EXTEND THE GEAR. ALSO, HE STATED THAT PILOT FATIGUE AND A HEAD COLD CONTRIBUTED TO THE DISTRACTION.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

1. (C) GEAR EXTENSION - NOT PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) DIVERTED ATTENTION - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) FATIGUE - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. WHEELS UP LANDING - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	39, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical-w/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	April 2, 1981
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1074 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1074 hours (Total, this make and model), 78 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N6958L
Model/Series:	310K 310K	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	310K 0058
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	5
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	5200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	0 Hrs	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1893 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	IO-470
Registered Owner:	DENT CORPORATION	Rated Power:	260 Horsepower
Operator:	DENT CORPORATION	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Night/bright
Observation Facility, Elevation:	EYW	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	20:00 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 3000 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Unknown	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	140°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	77°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	SARASOTA , FL	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	ATLANTA , GA	Type of Clearance:	
Departure Time:	19:40 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	KEY WEST INTERNATIONAL EYW	Runway Surface Type:	Macadam
Airport Elevation:	0 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	9	IFR Approach:	
Runway Length/Width:	4800 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

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:	24.549243,-81.779708(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date: March 4, 1983

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: [Class](#)

Note:

Investigation Docket: <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=71262>

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](#).