



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	MADISON, Connecticut	<b>Accident Number:</b>	NYC82DA081
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	April 28, 1982, 08:30 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N1147W
<b>Aircraft:</b>	MOONEY M20J	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Executive/Corporate		

## Analysis

THE PILOT REPORTED THAT DURING TAKEOFF, THE ENGINE LOST POWER AT ABOUT 30 FT AGL. HE SWITCHED TANKS AND CHECKED THAT THE BOOST PUMP WAS ON, BUT THE ENGINE DID NOT RESTART. THE PLANE WAS LANDED IN A MARSH WHERE IT FLIPPED OVER DURING TOUCHDOWN. AN INSPECTION OF THE FUEL SYSTEM REVEALED THAT IT WAS NOT DAMAGED. HOWEVER, WATER WAS FOUND IN THE LEFT TANK, FUEL INJECTOR, FUEL MANIFOLD ASSEMBLY, THE FUEL INJECTOR NOZZLES, AND ASSOCIATED LINES. THE OWNER REPORTED THAT RAIN WATER LEAKED INTO THE LEFT TANK WHILE THE AIRCRAFT WAS PARKED.

## 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: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

#### Findings

1. (F) FUEL SYSTEM,CAP - LEAK
2. (C) FLUID,FUEL - WATER
3. (C) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING  
Phase of Operation: LANDING

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Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

- 4. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - WET
- 5. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - SOFT

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Occurrence #4: NOSE OVER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	48, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Unknown
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>		<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 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	February 5, 1982
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	1282 hours (Total, all aircraft), 667 hours (Total, this make and model), 647 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 120 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	MOONEY	<b>Registration:</b>	N1147W
<b>Model/Series:</b>	M20J M20J	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>		<b>Serial Number:</b>	24-1203
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Retractable - Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	Unknown	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2740 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	0 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	165 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	LYCOMING
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-360-A1D
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	THERMAL ENGINEERING OF ARIZONA	<b>Rated Power:</b>	180 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	THERMAL ENGINEERING OF ARIZONA	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	
<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>	Unknown	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Unknown	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	5 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	360°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>		<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	50°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	MADISON , CT	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	WORCHESTER , MA	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	08:30 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	GRISWOLD	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	0 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Wet
<b>Runway Used:</b>	6	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	1863 ft / 50 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	None

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):**

**Additional Participating Persons:**

**Original Publish Date:** April 28, 1983

**Last Revision Date:**

**Investigation Class:** [Class](#)

**Note:**

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=71530>

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