



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	NEAR BIG LAKE, Alaska	<b>Incident Number:</b>	ANC82IA067
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	August 4, 1982, 21:15 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N70604
<b>Aircraft:</b>	PIPER J-3	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Minor
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	2 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

DURING CRUISE FLIGHT, THE AIRCRAFTS ENGINE LOST POWER AND BEGAN VIBRATING SEVERLY. AFTER THE PILOT TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO REMEDY THE PROBLEM, HE EXECUTED AN EMERGENCY LANDING IN A MARSH. SHORTLY AFTER TOUCHDOWN THE AIRCRAFT BOGGED DOWN AND NOSED OVER. A TEARDOWN EXAMINATION OF THE ENGINE REVEALED THAT IT HAD EXPERIENCED AN INTERNAL FAILURE IN THE AREA OF THE #1 AND #2 CYLINDERS. WHILE THE EXACT MODE AND SEQUENCE OF FAILURE WAS NOT IDENTIFIED, EVIDENCE OF INADEQUATE LUBRICATION WAS OBSERVED.

## Probable Cause and Findings

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

### Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(PARTIAL) - MECH FAILURE/MALF

Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

Findings

1. (C) ENGINE ASSEMBLY - FAILURE,PARTIAL

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	37, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea	<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--w/ waivers/lim	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	November 20, 1980
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	129 hours (Total, all aircraft), 66 hours (Total, this make and model), 81 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	PIPER	<b>Registration:</b>	N70604
<b>Model/Series:</b>	J-3 J-3	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>		<b>Serial Number:</b>	17613
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	Unknown	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	1220 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	422 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	9272 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	CONTINENTAL
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-200A
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	STEPHEN F. TURNER	<b>Rated Power:</b>	100 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	STEPHEN F. TURNER	<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>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	20 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Unknown	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	/	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	0°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>		<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	70°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	LAKE HOOD , AK (LHD )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	LAKE HOOD , AK (LHD )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	19:30 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	0 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	
<b>Runway Used:</b>	0	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	0 ft / 0 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	None

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Minor
<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>	

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):**

**Additional Participating Persons:**

**Original Publish Date:** August 4, 1983

**Last Revision Date:**

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

**Note:**

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=71848>

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