



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	LOCUST GROVE, Georgia	Accident Number:	ATL91LA141
Date & Time:	July 24, 1991, 16:00 Local	Registration:	N3263
Aircraft:	MARIDON STARDUSTER TOO	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

TWO FLIGHT INSTRUCTORS, ONE LOCAL & ONE FROM CALIFORNIA, WERE PRACTICING LANDINGS. INSTRUMENTS WERE IN REAR COCKPIT. REAR PILOT NOTED FUEL INDICATION WAS EMPTY. FUEL WAS NOT AVAILABLE AT FBO ON PRACTICE AIRPORT. FUEL TANK WAS DIPPED & FRONT SEAT PILOT BELIEVED FUEL WAS SUFFICIENT TO REACH HOME AIRPORT ABOUT 8 MINUTES AWAY. EN ROUTE, VISIBILITY DECREASED. UPON REACHING INTERSTATE HIGHWAY, HEADING WAS ALTERED AWAY FROM HOME AIRPORT. AFTER A FEW MILES, MISTAKE WAS RECOGNIZED & COURSE REVERSED. THE ENGINE QUIT ABOUT 3 MILES FROM THE AIRPORT. ACFT EXAMINATION REVEALED ONLY RESIDUAL FUEL IN THE GASCOLATOR & NONE IN THE LINE BETWEEN THE GASCOLATOR & THE CARBURETOR.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: FUEL EXHAUSTION WHICH RESULTED FROM THE FAILURE OF THE PILOTS TO REFUEL THE AIRPLANE. A FACTOR WAS THE LOCAL PILOT'S HAVING BECOME LOST.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION
2. (C) REFUELING - NOT OBTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) REFUELING - NOT OBTAINED - COPILOT/SECOND PILOT
4. (F) BECAME LOST/DISORIENTED - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: LANDING

Findings
5. OBJECT - TREE(S)

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	39, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1600 hours (Total, all aircraft), 7 hours (Total, this make and model), 1500 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 25 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 15 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	MARIDON	Registration:	N3263
Model/Series:	STARDUSTER TOO STARDUSTER	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	001
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	July 6, 1991 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	8 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	273 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	JACOBS
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	L4MB
Registered Owner:	ROBERTS, WILLIAM B	Rated Power:	24 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:	FLOW APPLICATION RESEARCH	Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	ATL ,1026 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	24 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	16:50 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	320°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 4000 ft AGL	Visibility	6 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 8000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	4 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	60°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	26°C / 22°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	N/A - None - Haze		
Departure Point:	HAMPTON , GA (4A7)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	MALLARD'S LDG. , GA (GA04)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	00:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced landing

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	33.34032,-84.099929(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hicks, Preston
Additional Participating Persons:	CHARLES GALLOWAY; COLLEGE PARK , GA JR. BRODIE CRIM; STOCKBRIDGE , GA
Original Publish Date:	March 31, 1993
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=8443

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