



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	SNOW HILL, North Carolina	Accident Number:	ATL93FA016
Date & Time:	October 26, 1992, 19:53 Local	Registration:	N8869L
Aircraft:	GRUMMAN AMERICAN 5	AA-	Aircraft Damage: Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Other work use		

Analysis

ABOUT 15 MINUTES INTO A RETURN FLIGHT, THE PILOT REPORTED TO ATC THAT HIS ENGINE HAD FAILED, AND HE WAS ATTEMPTING A FORCED LANDING ON A RURAL ROAD. NIGHT, VISUAL METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS PREVAILED. AS THE AIRCRAFT TOUCHED DOWN, IT COLLIDED WITH A PINE TREE, THE LEFT WING SEVERED, AND THE AIRCRAFT NOSED OVER. THE AIRCRAFT CAME TO REST INVERTED, A FIRE ERUPTED, AND THE AIRCRAFT WAS DESTROYED. AN INSPECTION OF THE AIRFRAME AND ENGINE FAILED TO REVEAL EVIDENCE OF A MECHANICAL MALFUNCTION OR FAILURE. ACCORDING TO CARBURETOR ICING CHARTS, CONDITIONS WERE CONDUCIVE FOR CARBURETOR ICING.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S FAILURE TO USE CARBURETOR HEAT, WHICH RESULTED IN LOSS OF ENGINE POWER. FACTORS WERE THE CARBURETOR ICING CONDITIONS, AND THE DARK NIGHT LIGHTING CONDITIONS.

Findings

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

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - CARBURETOR ICING CONDITIONS
2. (C) CARBURETOR HEAT - NOT SELECTED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. FUEL SYSTEM, CARBURETOR - ICE

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

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

4. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	22, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical-w/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	March 10, 1992
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	221 hours (Total, all aircraft), 149 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	GRUMMAN AMERICAN	Registration:	N8869L
Model/Series:	AA-5 AA-5	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	AA5-0657
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	July 2, 1992 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	84 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3151 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-E2G
Registered Owner:	TAR HEEL AVIATION, INC.	Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
Operator:	TAR HEEL AVIATION, INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand air taxi (135)
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Night/dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	ISO ,94 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	13 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	19:45 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	150°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	20 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	230°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	15°C / 6°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	ROCKY MOUNT , NC (RWI)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	JACKSONVILLE , NC (OAJ)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	19:35 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	On-ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	On-ground
Total Injuries:	2 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	35.44902,-77.670776(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Hicks, Ralph

Additional Participating Persons: MARY BALLARD; MORRISVILLE , NC

Original Publish Date: June 21, 1993

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: [Class](#)

Note:

Investigation Docket: <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=8674>

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