

# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: WINDSOR, New York Accident Number: BF093LA105

Date & Time: July 4, 1993, 09:15 Local Registration: N10JA

Aircraft: ADOLFSON STARDUSTER SA300 Aircraft Damage: Destroyed

**Defining Event:** 1 Fatal, 1 Serious

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

### **Analysis**

THE AIRPLANE WAS FUELED WITH AUTOMOTIVE GASOLINE AND FLOWN WITH NO REPORTED PROBLEMS TWO DAYS PRIOR TO THE ACCIDENT. ON THE DAY OF THE ACCIDENT, THE AIRPLANE WAS WASHED AND PREFLIGHTED. THE PILOT STARTED THE ENGINE AND TAXIED TO THE END OF THE GRASS STRIP. AFTER TAKEOFF AT ABOUT 200 FEET ABOVE THE GROUND, THE ENGINE 'STOPPED DEAD.' THE AIRPLANE WAS OBSERVED TO VEER TO THE RIGHT AND ENTER A 'NOSE DIVE'. ACCORDING TO THE PILOT, THE AIRPLANE 'PROBABLY STALLED'. THE AIRPLANE IMPACTED A DRIVEWAY IN A RESIDENTIAL AREA. AN EXAMINATION OF THE ENGINE AND AIRFRAME DID NOT REVEAL ANY MECHANICAL MALFUNCTIONS.

### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER DURING INITIAL CLIMBOUT DUE TO UNDETERMINED REASONS. A FACTOR RELATED TO THE ACCIDENT WAS THE PILOT'S FAILURE TO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE AIRSPEED FOLLOWING THE LOSS OF ENGINE POWER, LEADING TO AN AERODYNAMIC STALL.

#### **Findings**

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

#### **Findings**

1. (C) REASON FOR OCCURRENCE UNDETERMINED

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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

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Occurrence #3: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

#### **Findings**

2. (F) AIRSPEED - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

3. STALL - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #4: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

#### **Findings**

4. TERRAIN CONDITION - RESIDENTIAL AREA

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## **Factual Information**

### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Private	Age:	61,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Rear
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medicalw/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 29, 1992
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	535 hours (Total, all aircraft), 32 hours (Total, this make and model), 5 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

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### **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

Aircraft Make:	ADOLFSON	Registration:	N10JA
Model/Series:	STARDUSTER SA300 STARDUSTER	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	August 19, 1992 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:	1 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	364 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-E2D
Registered Owner:	RAYMOND L. OSTERHOUT	Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
Operator:	RAYMOND L. OSTERHOUT	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	BGM ,1636 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	10 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	09:43 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	300°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	Visibility	7 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	290°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	21°C / 17°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipita	ation	
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	09:15 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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### **Airport Information**

Airport:	PRIVATE	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:		<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
Runway Used:	22	IFR Approach:	
Runway Length/Width:	1600 ft / 60 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Fatal, 1 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	42.070182,-75.640754(est)

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Guzzetti, Jeffrey

Additional Participating PEDRO L MUNOZ; ROCHESTER , NY GEORGE DUNN; ROCHESTER , NY

Original Publish Date: September 26, 1994

Last Revision Date: Investigation Class: Class

Note:

Investigation Docket: <a href="https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=8780">https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=8780</a>

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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.

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