



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	NEAR LAKELAND, FL	Accident Number:	MIA82AA177
Date & Time:	09/02/1982, 1516 EDT	Registration:	N62957
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-31-350	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation -		

Analysis

THE FLT WAS CONDUCTING SINGLE-ENG FLT TESTS WITH THE INBOARD GEAR DOORS REMOVED & WAS BEING PHOTOGRAPHED BY A CHASE ACFT. AT THE END OF THE TESTS THE PLT WAS UNABLE TO RESTART THE LEFT ENG & RETURNED FOR A SINGLE-ENG LANDING. THE PLT OVERSHOT THE LANDING ATTEMPT & EXECUTED A SINGLE-ENG GO-AROUND. THE PLT THEN REPORTED HE HAD A GEAR PROBLEM. AN OCCUPANT OF THE CHASE ACFT REPORTED THAT THE MAIN GEAR WERE HANGING 75 TO 80 DEG FROM THE HORIZONTAL. A COMPANY EMPLOYEE AT THE ARPT REPORTED THAT THE NOSE GEAR WAS ABOUT 10 DEG AFT OF THE NORMAL DOWN & LOCKED POSITION. THE ACFT CONTINUED ON A WSW HEADING AWAY FROM THE ARPT, PASSING OVER SEVERAL SUITABLE EMERGENCY LANDING SITES WHILE IN A SLOW DESCENT UNTIL COLLIDING WITH THE GUY/GROUNDING WIRE ATOP A POWERLINE POLE 4 MI WSW OF THE ARPT.

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

Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (C) PROPELLER SYSTEM/ACCESSORIES,FEATHERING SYSTEM - UNDETERMINED

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: GO-AROUND (VFR)

Findings

2. (C) PLANNED APPROACH - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND

3. (F) GO-AROUND - INITIATED - PILOT IN COMMAND

4. (F) ABORTED LANDING - PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND

5. (F) DOOR,LANDING GEAR - OTHER

6. (F) LANDING GEAR,NORMAL RETRACTION/EXTENSION ASSEMBLY - UNDETERMINED

7. (F) GEAR RETRACTION - NOT POSSIBLE - PILOT IN COMMAND

8. (F) AIRCRAFT PERFORMANCE,ENGINE OUT CAPABILITY - DETERIORATED

9. (C) IN-FLIGHT PLANNING/DECISION - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND

10. (F) OBJECT - GUY WIRE

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	35, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	04/13/1982
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	3327 hours (Total, all aircraft), 179 hours (Total, this make and model), 3218 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 14 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N62957
Model/Series:	PA-31-350 PA-31-350	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	3107752005
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	7000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	26 Hours	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1255 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	TIO-540
Registered Owner:	PIPER AIRCRAFT CORPORATION	Rated Power:	350 hp
Operator:	PIPER AIRCRAFT CORPORATION	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0000	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 4500 ft agl	Visibility	15 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	Calm /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	89° C / 0° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	LAKELAND, FL	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	LAKELAND, FL	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1430	Type of Airspace:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	On-Ground
Total Injuries:	2 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Report Date:	09/02/1983
Additional Participating Persons:		
Publish Date:		
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .	

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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).