



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	ONEONTA, NY	Accident Number:	NYC84FA114
Date & Time:	03/21/1984, 1902 EST	Registration:	N27886
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-31-350	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	5 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Business		

Analysis

THE ACFT CRASHED IN A WOODED AREA AFTER THE LOSS OF ENG POWER. THE WX WAS VMC. THE PLT MADE A MISSED APPROACH AFTER TRYING TO LAND ON RWY AT ONEONTA, AT 1838 HRS. LATER THE PLT RADIOED THAT HE WAS UNABLE TO 'PICK UP' THE KRING BEACON. BOSTON CENTER VECTORED THE FLT TO THE AREA OF THE KRING BEACON. THE PLT THEN PROCEEDED TO QUESTION HIS POSITION. WHEN BOSTON TERMINATED RADAR SERVICE THE PLTS ANSWER WAS UNINTELLIGIBLE. NO FURTHER COMMUNICATIONS WERE RECEIVED FROM THE FLT. THE WRECKAGE WAS FOUND ABOUT 1/2 MILE FROM THE ARPT. THE LEFT FULL TANK SELECTOR WAS FOUND ON THE LEFT OUTBOARD TANK. THIS ACFT IS RESTRICTED TO LEVEL FLT FOR USE OF FUEL FROM THE OUTBOARD TANKS.

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(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (F) FLUID,FUEL - STARVATION
2. (C) PROCEDURES/DIRECTIVES - NOT FOLLOWED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) DIVERTED ATTENTION - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) FUEL TANK SELECTOR POSITION - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (C) IFR PROCEDURE - NOT FOLLOWED - PILOT IN COMMAND
6. (C) MENTAL PERFORMANCE OVERLOAD - PILOT IN COMMAND
7. (C) ANXIETY/APPREHENSION - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

8. (C) IFR PROCEDURE - NOT CORRECTED - PILOT IN COMMAND
9. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT
10. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - HIGH TERRAIN
11. OBJECT - TREE(S)

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Flight Instructor	Age:	48, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Multi-engine; Airplane Single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	None Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	01/09/1984
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	11699 hours (Total, all aircraft), 509 hours (Total, this make and model), 12 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 12 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 12 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 12 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N27886
Model/Series:	PA-31-350 PA-31-350	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	31-7952024
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	8
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	7000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2065 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	TIO-540-52BD
Registered Owner:	KAR-SAN DEV. LTD.	Rated Power:	350 hp
Operator:	KAR-SAN DEV. LTD.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	BGM, 1630 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	45 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1950 EST	Direction from Accident Site:	245°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	12 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 800 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	26 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	130°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	6° C / 3° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	(PHF)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	0000	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	ONEONTA MUNI. (N66)	Runway Surface Type:	Macadam
Airport Elevation:	1765 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Wet
Runway Used:	24	IFR Approach:	Localizer Only
Runway Length/Width:	3400 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	4 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	On-Ground
Total Injuries:	5 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	MICHAEL T KUZENKO	Report Date:	
Additional Participating Persons:	D. FISCHER; ALBANY, NY R. BOOB, JR.; LAKELAND, FL W. J LIONA; WILLIAMSPORT, PA		
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 pubinquiry@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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