

National Transportation Safety Board
Washington, DC 20594

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Brief of Accident

Adopted 08/13/2013

ERA12FA271 File No. 31425	04/06/2012	Everglades City ,FL	Aircraft Reg No. N548SF	Time (Local): 16:45 EDT		
Make/Model:	Wejebe Jose/CA8 -SF			Fatal	Serious	Minor/None
Engine Make/Model:	Walter / 601D		Crew	1	0	0
Aircraft Damage:	Substantial		Pass	0	0	0
Number of Engines:	1					
Operating Certificate(s):	None					
Type of Flight Operation:	Personal					
Reg. Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation					
Last Depart. Point: Same as Accident/Incident Location				Condition of Light:	Day	
Destination: Merritt Island, FL				Weather Info Src:	Weather Observation Facility	
Airport Proximity: Off Airport/Airstrip				Basic Weather:	Visual Conditions	
				Lowest Ceiling:	2100 Ft. AGL, Broken	
				Visibility:	10.00 SM	
				Wind Dir/Speed:	310 / 012 kts	
				Temperature (°C):	27	
				Precip/Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation	
Pilot-in-Command	Age: 54			Flight Time (Hours)		
Certificate(s)/Rating(s)				Total All Aircraft:	1208	
Private; Single-engine Land				Last 90 Days:	Unk/Nr	
Instrument Ratings				Total Make/Model:	Unk/Nr	
None				Total Instrument Time:	Unk/Nr	

*** Note: NTSB investigators either traveled in support of this investigation or conducted a significant amount of investigative work without any travel, and used data obtained from various sources to prepare this aircraft accident report. ***

Witnesses observed the airplane depart the airport to the north and make an abrupt right turn at an altitude of about 150 feet. One witness, who was also a pilot, described the wings as "shimmying," appearing as if the airplane stalled before it banked to the right in a nose-down attitude. The airplane crashed and was nearly consumed during the postcrash fire. A postaccident examination was conducted with no preimpact mechanical anomalies noted.

Records indicate that the pilot built the airplane from a kit about 6 years before the accident. The pilot and airplane logbooks were not located during the investigation; therefore, the maintenance history for the airplane, and the pilot's recent (and total) flight experience could not be determined.

Postaccident toxicological testing revealed metabolites of the drug diazepam (Valium) in the pilot's blood and urine. Valium is a prescription benzodiazepine classed as a central nervous system depressant and tranquilizer, used as a sleep aid and to inhibit anxiety. The amount noted in the pilot's blood suggested he took the drug 12 to 24 hours before the accident, and, as a result, it would not have affected his performance.

Brief of Accident (Continued)

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File No. 31425

04/06/2012

Everglades City ,FL

Aircraft Reg No. N548SF

Time (Local): 16:45 EDT

Updated at Aug 13 2013 7:56AM

Brief of Accident (Continued)

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File No. 31425	04/06/2012	Everglades City ,FL	Aircraft Reg No. N548SF	Time (Local): 16:45 EDT

OCCURRENCES

Initial climb - Aerodynamic stall/spin
Initial climb - Loss of control in flight
Uncontrolled descent - Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

FINDINGS

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Airspeed-Not attained/maintained - C
Personnel issues-Action/decision-Action-Lack of action-Pilot - C

Findings Legend: (C) = Cause, (F) = Factor

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows:
The pilot's failure to maintain sufficient airspeed during the initial climb after takeoff, which resulted in an aerodynamic stall and loss of airplane control.