



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	MOORE HAVEN, FL	Accident Number:	MIA86FA080
Date & Time:	02/17/1986, 0000	Registration:	N7EA
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-31-310	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Fatal

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Other Work Use

Analysis

ON FEBRUARY 17, 1986 THE WRECKAGE OF N7EA ALONG WITH THE SKELETAL REMAINS OF TWO PERSONS WERE FOUND. THE ACFT CRASHED INTO TREES CAUSING THE SEPARATION OF THE OUTBOARD SIX FEET OF LEFT WING AND THEN CONTINUED CRASHING THROUGH MORE TREES BEFORE COLLIDING WITH THE GROUND. THE ACFT CAUGHT FIRE DURING THE IMPACT SEQUENCE AND WAS COMPLETELY DESTROYED BY POST CRASH FIRE. FUEL FITTINGS AND PUMPS USED IN ACFT FUEL SYSTEMS WERE FOUND IN THE CABIN AREA OF THE WRECKAGE. ALSO THE CLOSURE MECHANISMS FOR SEVERAL MILITARY TYPE DUFFLE BAGS WERE FOUND AND ONLY TWO SEATS WERE INSTALLED IN THE COCKPIT. EXAMINATION OF THE ENGS REVEALED BOTH TO BE OPERABLE AT THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT. THE DATE AND TIME OF THE ACCIDENT COULD NOT BE DETERMINED. THE ORIGIN AND DESTINATION OF THE FLT COULD ALSO NOT BE DETERMINED. THE ACFT WAS LAST SEEN AT THE FT. LAUDERDALE EXECUTIVE ARPT ON 2/3/86.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)
2. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) IN-FLIGHT PLANNING/DECISION - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

4. TERRAIN CONDITION - HIGH VEGETATION

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:		Age:	
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):		Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Unknown Unknown	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:			

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N7EA
Model/Series:	PA-31-310 PA-31-310	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	31-117
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable -	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	6500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	TIO-540-A1B
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	310 hp
Operator:	JOHN JEFFERS	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Unknown	Condition of Light:	Not Reported
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0000	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	0 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	UNKNOWN	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	UNKNOWN	Type of Clearance:	
Departure Time:	0000	Type of Airspace:	

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:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	JEFFREY L KENNEDY	Report Date:	
Additional Participating Persons:	RICHARD SCHAFFER; FT. LAUDERDALE, FL		
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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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](#).