



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	LAS VEGAS, NM	Accident Number:	DEN85FA125
Date & Time:	05/05/1985, 1148 MDT	Registration:	N8343G
Aircraft:	CESSNA 421C	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Serious, 2 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE ACFT WAS LANDED IN A PASTURE ABOUT 2 MILES FROM THE ARPT AFTER THE ACFT BEGAN TO DESCEND 'BEHIND THE POWER CURVE' AFTER TAKEOFF. THE PLT SAID HE USED FULL POWER FOR TAKEOFF BUT THE TAKEOFF WAS LONGER THAN NORMAL. THE DA WAS COMPUTED TO BE 9286 FT. AFTER TAKEOFF THE PLT SAID HE RAISED THE LNDG GEAR BUT A WITNESS DISAGREED. THE FLT THEN REDUCED PWR AND AS RPM WAS REDUCED, NOTED THAT THE MP WAS ONLY 24 IN. THE ACFT BEGAN A DESCENT WHICH THE PLT SAID COULD NOT BE STOPPED WITH POWER SO HE LANDED GEAR DOWN IN A PASTURE. THE ACFT COLLIDED WITH 2 DITCHES AND A FENCE DURING THE 1500 FT ROLL. THE ENGS WERE FOUND TO OPERATE NORMALLY AFTER THE ACCIDENT.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - HIGH DENSITY ALTITUDE
2. (F) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) AIRCRAFT WEIGHT AND BALANCE - NOT USED - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) PERFORMANCE DATA - NOT USED - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (C) OVERCONFIDENCE IN PERSONAL ABILITY - PILOT IN COMMAND
6. (C) THROTTLE/POWER CONTROL - IMPROPER USE OF - PILOT IN COMMAND
7. (C) REMEDIAL ACTION - DELAYED - PILOT IN COMMAND
8. (C) AIRSPEED - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: DESCENT

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

9. TERRAIN CONDITION - OPEN FIELD
10. TERRAIN CONDITION - DIRT BANK/RISING EMBANKMENT
11. (F) OBJECT - FENCE

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	53, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	04/17/1985
Occupational Pilot:	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:		
Flight Time:	4230 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N8343G
Model/Series:	421C 421C	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	4210307
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	8
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	09/04/1984, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	7450 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	89 Hours	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2690 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	GTSIO-520-L
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	375 hp
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:	SQUARE TOOL & MACHINE COMPANY	Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	LVS, 6866 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1142 MDT	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 25000 ft agl	Visibility	30 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	15 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	210°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	23° C / 1° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	EL MONTE, CA (EMT)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1145 MDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	2 Serious, 1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Serious, 2 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	GREGORY A FEITH	Report Date:	
Additional Participating Persons:	GEORGE R BAKER; AURORA, CO KEITH RUNYAN; ALBUQUERQUE, NM		
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](#).