



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	BEAUFORT, SC	Accident Number:	ATL88MA048
Date & Time:	11/30/1987, 0946 EST	Registration:	N4463W
Aircraft:	BEECH C90	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Fatal

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Personal

Analysis

AT 0938, WHILE CLBG THRU 9000', THE PLT WAS CLRD TO CLB TO FL 210. APRX 10 MIN LATER, THE ATC CTLR NOTED THE ACFT'S MODE C RTRN WASN'T BEING DISPLAYED ON HIS SCOPE. HE TRIED TO ADZ THE PLT, BUT COULDN'T ESTABLISH RADIO CONTACT. THE ACFTBROKE UP IN FLT & THE WRECKAGE WAS FND SUBMERGED IN A CREEK & ON MARSHLAND. A LARGE PIECE OF THE RGT OUTBOARD WING PANELWAS FND ABT 2 MI EAST OF THE MAIN WRECKAGE. THE RGT ENG WAS FND APRX 800' TO 1200' NE OF THE MAIN WRECKAGE IN 4' OF WTR.THERE WAS EVIDENCE THE RGT OUTBOARD WING HAD FAILED FM UPWARD & AFT OVERLOAD. NO PRE-ACDNT MECH FAILURE OR MALFUNCTION WAS FND THAT WOULD HAVE RESULTED IN AN IN-FLT BREAK-UP. RADAR DATA SHOWED THE ACFT WAS CLBG AT 115 KTS & 1100'/MIN; AT APRX 16,000' MSL, RATE OF CLB SLOWED TO APRX 750'/MIN, THEN INCREASED TO 1200'/MIN. PEAK ALT WAS APRX 18,200'. ACFT THENENTERED A STEEP DSCNT & CRASHED. AT THE APRX TIME & PLACE OF PEAK ALT, PRIMARY TARGETS APPEARED ON RADAR & REMAINED FOR SVRL MINS. ORGANIC MTRL WAS FND ON LEFT ENG INLET SCREEN, BUT SOURCE WAS NOT DTRMD. ACDNT OCCURRED ALONG BIRD FLYWAY.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: AIRFRAME/COMPONENT/SYSTEM FAILURE/MALFUNCTION
Phase of Operation: CLIMB

Findings

1. (C) REASON FOR OCCURRENCE UNDETERMINED
2. DESIGN STRESS LIMITS OF AIRCRAFT - EXCEEDED
3. WING - OVERLOAD
4. WING - SEPARATION

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

Findings

5. TERRAIN CONDITION - WATER

Factual Information

History of Flight

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	66, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	08/05/1986
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	14000 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BEECH	Registration:	N4463W
Model/Series:	C90 C90	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	LJ-633
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	7
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	01/15/1987, AAIP	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	9650 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	191 Hours	Engines:	2 Turbo Prop
Airframe Total Time:	2092 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	P&W
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	PT6A-20A
Registered Owner:	JOSEPH R. LEON	Rated Power:	550 hp
Operator:	JOSEPH R. LEON	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	NBC, 10 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	5 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0956 EST	Direction from Accident Site:	360°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	7 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 7000 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	9 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	260°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	10° C / 4° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	SAVANNAH, GA (SAV)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	PHILADELPHIA, PA (PNE)	Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	0931 EST	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	KAREN BURNETT	Report Date:	07/12/1991
Additional Participating Persons:	TOM MAHONEY; COLUMBIA, SC KRISTEN JONES; WASHINGTON, DC DEAN THOMPSON; WICHITA, KS RON FRANK; WICHITA, KS		
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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