



# National Transportation Safety Board

## Aviation Accident Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	CRYSTAL CITY, TX	<b>Accident Number:</b>	FTW87FA174
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	07/24/1987, 1700 CDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N448
<b>Aircraft:</b>	CESSNA 421C	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal, 1 Serious
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>		Part 91: General Aviation - Personal	

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### Analysis

THE PILOT LANDED DOWNWIND ON HIS PRIVATE STRIP. THE EXACT AMOUNT OF THE TAILWIND COULD NOT BE DETERMINED. A THUNDERSTORM WAS LOCATED JUST TO THE EAST OF THE RUNWAY AND COULD HAVE READILY GIVEN N448 A STRONG TAILWIND. THE AIRCRAFT TOUCHED DOWN 390 FEET BEYOND THE THRESHOLD. LIGHT BRAKING ACTION WAS EVIDENT FROM THAT POINT UP TO A POINT 400 FEET FROM A HANGAR WHERE ALL TIRE MARKS DISAPPEARED. THE AIRCRAFT COLLIDED WITH THE HANGAR, WHICH WAS BUILT AT THE END OF AND ACROSS THE RUNWAY, APPROXIMATELY 10 FEET ABOVE THE RUNWAY SURFACE AND WAS DESTROYED BY THE SUBSEQUENT POST CRASH FIRE.

### Probable Cause and Findings

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

## Findings

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Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ABORTED

### Findings

1. (F) OBJECT - BUILDING(NONRESIDENTIAL)
  2. (C) BRAKES(NORMAL) - IMPROPER USE OF - PILOT IN COMMAND
  3. (F) ABORTED LANDING - DELAYED - PILOT IN COMMAND
  4. (F) DISTANCE - MISJUDGED - PILOT IN COMMAND
  5. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - TAILWIND
  6. (C) WRONG RUNWAY - SELECTED - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: FIRE

Phase of Operation: LANDING

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	72, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	Yes
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	06/25/1987
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	11000 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	CESSNA	<b>Registration:</b>	N448
<b>Model/Series:</b>	421C 421C	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	No
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	421C1034
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Retractable - Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	6
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	02/16/1987, Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	6800 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	95 Hours	<b>Engines:</b>	2 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	1375 Hours	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	CONTINENTAL
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	GTSIO-520-N
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	HAYDEN W. HEAD	<b>Rated Power:</b>	375 hp
<b>Operator:</b>	HAYDEN W. HEAD	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	COT, 471 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	40 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1649 CDT	Direction from Accident Site:	120°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 4000 ft agl	Visibility	15 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 12000 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	10 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	90°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	30°C / 20°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	BEAUMONT, TX	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	(8R4)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0000	Type of Airspace:	Class G

## Airport Information

Airport:	H & F RANCHSTRIP (8R4)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	640 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	25	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3000 ft / 30 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic Pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

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

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	ARMOND EDWARDS	Report Date:	11/29/1988
Additional Participating Persons:	MICHAEL A MARTIN; SAN ANTONIO, TX		
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 <a href="mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.ntsb.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.ntsb.gov/pubdms/</a> .		

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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](#).