

National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location: DENVER, CO Accident Number: DEN88FA126

Date & Time: 06/10/1988, 1604 MDT Registration: N8827K

Aircraft: CESSNA 404 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Injuries: 1 Serious

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Ferry

Analysis

THE PLT WAS ON A FLT FROM GREELEY TO DENVER, COLORADO TO OBTAIN MINOR MAINT ON A CARGO DOOR. AS THE ACFT WAS BEING VECTORED ON FINAL APCH, THE PLT RPRTD THAT HE BELIEVED THE ACFT HAD FUEL STARVATION. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE ACFT WAS OBSERVEDTO MAKE A COMPLETE ROLL & CRASH IN A RESIDENTIAL AREA. ONLY ABOUT 1.5 GAL OF FUEL WAS FOUND IN THE RIGHT WING TANK. THE LEFT WING & FUEL TANK WERE DESTROYED, BUT NO ODOR OF FUEL WAS NOTED ON THE GROUND AROUND THE LEFT WING. ALSO, A LACK OF FUEL WAS NOTED IN THE FUEL LINES. THE ACFT HAD NOT BEEN REFUELED AFTER THE PREVIOUS FLT. THE PLT THAT HAD FLOWN THE ACFT ON A PREVIOUS FLT ESTIMATED THERE WAS 100 LBS OF FUEL REMAINING IN EACH TANK AFTER HIS FLT.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - FINAL APPROACH

Findings

- 1. 1 ENGINE
- 2. (F) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT IMPROPER PILOT IN COMMAND
- 3. (F) REFUELING NOT PERFORMED PILOT IN COMMAND
- 4. (F) IN-FLIGHT PLANNING/DECISION IMPROPER PILOT IN COMMAND
- 5. (F) FLUID, FUEL STARVATION
- 6. (F) FUEL SUPPLY INADEQUATE PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - FINAL APPROACH

Findings

7. (C) AIRSPEED(VMC) - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

8. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Page 2 of 5 DEN88FA126

Factual Information

Pilot Information

| Certificate: | Commercial | Age: | 47, Male |
|---------------------------|---|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Airplane Rating(s): | Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land | Seat Occupied: | Left |
| Other Aircraft Rating(s): | None | Restraint Used: | Seatbelt, Shoulder harness |
| Instrument Rating(s): | Airplane | Second Pilot Present: | No |
| Instructor Rating(s): | None | Toxicology Performed: | Yes |
| Medical Certification: | Class 1 Valid Medicalno waivers/lim. | Last FAA Medical Exam: | 07/27/1987 |
| Occupational Pilot: | Last Flight Review or Equivalent: | | |
| Flight Time: | 1400 hours (Total, all aircraft), 400 hours (Total, this make and model), 1200 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 100 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 33 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft) | | |

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

| • | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Aircraft Make: | CESSNA | Registration: | N8827K |
| Model/Series: | 404 404 | Aircraft Category: | Airplane |
| Year of Manufacture: | | Amateur Built: | No |
| Airworthiness Certificate: | Normal | Serial Number: | 4040424 |
| Landing Gear Type: | Retractable - Tricycle | Seats: | 2 |
| Date/Type of Last Inspection: | 05/24/1988, Continuous Airworthiness | Certified Max Gross Wt.: | 8400 lbs |
| Time Since Last Inspection: | 39 Hours | Engines: | 2 Reciprocating |
| Airframe Total Time: | 3486 Hours | Engine Manufacturer: | CONTINENTAL |
| ELT: | Installed, activated | Engine Model/Series: | GTISO-520-M |
| Registered Owner: | CHANE SOON PHIL | Rated Power: | 375 hp |
| Operator: | AIR TODAY, INC. | Operating Certificate(s) Held: | On-demand Air Taxi (135) |
| Operator Does Business As: | | Operator Designator Code: | TDY |

Page 3 of 5 DEN88FA126

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

| Conditions at Accident Site: | Visual Conditions | Condition of Light: | Day |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | DEN, 5333 ft msl | Distance from Accident Site: | 1 Nautical Miles |
| Observation Time: | 1530 MDT | Direction from Accident Site: | 270° |
| Lowest Cloud Condition: | Unknown / 0 ft agl | Visibility | 5 Miles |
| Lowest Ceiling: | Broken / 8000 ft agl | Visibility (RVR): | 0 ft |
| Wind Speed/Gusts: | 16 knots / | Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual: | / |
| Wind Direction: | 290° | Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual: | / |
| Altimeter Setting: | 30 inches Hg | Temperature/Dew Point: | 27°C / 8°C |
| Precipitation and Obscuration: | | | |
| Departure Point: | GREELEY, CO (GXY) | Type of Flight Plan Filed: | None |
| Destination: | (DEN) | Type of Clearance: | |
| Departure Time: | 1545 MDT | Type of Airspace: | Class B; Class D |
| | | | |

Airport Information

| Airport: | STAPELTON INTL (DEN) | Runway Surface Type: | Concrete |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Airport Elevation: | 5333 ft | Runway Surface Condition: | |
| Runway Used: | 26L | IFR Approach: | None |
| Runway Length/Width: | 10004 ft / 150 ft | VFR Approach/Landing: | Forced Landing; Straight-in |

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

| Investigator In Charge (IIC): | VERLIN B TRANTER | Report Date: | 09/19/1989 |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------------|------------|
| Additional Participating Persons: | ROBERT WHITE; WICHITA, KS SCOTT BOYLE; ARVADA, CO ROGER RIGGENS; AURORA, CO | | |
| 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 publing@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.ntsb.gov/pubdms/ . | | |

Page 4 of 5 DEN88FA126

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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.

Page 5 of 5 DEN88FA126