



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	BAYPORT, NY	Accident Number:	BFO95LA039
Date & Time:	04/02/1995, 1336 EDT	Registration:	N70234
Aircraft:	PIPER J3-C65	Injuries:	1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

DURING TAKEOFF CLIMB, THE AIRPLANE'S ENGINE LOST TOTAL POWER. THE AIRPLANE STRUCK A FUEL TRUCK AND BRICK HANGAR WHILE BEING MANEUVERED BACK TO THE DEPARTED RUNWAY. POSTACCIDENT EXAMINATION OF THE AIRPLANE REVEALED THE FUEL SELECTOR VALVE WAS IN THE OFF POSITION. FUEL WAS FOUND IN THE ENGINE'S GASCOLATOR AND FUEL LINES. THE AIRPLANE'S THREE FUEL TANKS WERE BREACHED DURING THE ACCIDENT. WITNESSES AT THE AIRPORT STATED THAT THEY SAW THE PILOT 'TOP OFF' THE AIRPLANE PRIOR TO THE ACCIDENT FLIGHT. NO OTHER AIRFRAME OR ENGINE ANOMALIES WERE NOTED.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S IMPROPER POSITIONING OF THE FUEL SELECTOR.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. FLUID,FUEL - STARVATION
2. (C) FUEL TANK SELECTOR POSITION - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY LANDING AFTER TAKEOFF

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY LANDING AFTER TAKEOFF

Findings

3. OBJECT - VEHICLE
4. OBJECT - BUILDING(NONRESIDENTIAL)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	None	Age:	60
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None

Flight Time:

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N70234
Model/Series:	J3-C65 J3-C65	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	ROBERT H. HUMESTON	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	C-85-12
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	ISP, 0 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 5300 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots / , 350°
Temperature:	9° C	Visibility	15 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	(23N)	Destination:	

Airport Information

Airport:	BAYPORT (23N)	Runway Surface Type:	
Runway Used:	18	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:	2740 ft / 150 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): MARGARET B NAPOLITAN

Adopted Date: 10/19/1995

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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