



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	ROCKVILLE, IN	Accident Number:	CHI95LA145
Date & Time:	05/02/1995, 1827 EST	Registration:	N3428
Aircraft:	FRANKLIN EAA BI-PLANE/P1	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE PILOT REPORTED IN HIS WRITTEN STATEMENT THAT HE WAS CONDUCTING AN ENGINE RUNUP BECAUSE THE ENGINE WOULD NOT DEVELOP FULL POWER. HE DECIDED TO TAXI DOWN THE RUNWAY WITH NO INTENTION OF TAKING OFF, BUT INADVERTENTLY BECAME AIRBORNE. SHORTLY AFTER THE UNINTENTIONAL TAKEOFF, THE ENGINE LOST PARTIAL POWER, TURNED TO THE RIGHT AND IMPACTED TERRAIN. POST-ACCIDENT EXAMINATION OF THE ENGINE REVEALED EVIDENCE OF HEAT DAMAGE AND ABNORMAL PISTON RING WEAR. THERE WERE SCRAPE MARKINGS ON THE PISTON, PISTON RINGS, AND CYLINDER WALL. THE PILOT STATED THAT HE PERFORMED THE CYLINDER AND RING CHANGE AND WAS NOT AWARE THAT THE CYLINDER AND RING COMBINATION WERE NOT COMPATIBLE.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the pilot's improper maintenance installation and his inadvertent takeoff. A factor was the pilot's inadequate pre-flight planning.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(PARTIAL) - MECH FAILURE/MALF
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. COMBUSTION ASSEMBLY - SCORED
2. (C) MAINTENANCE, INSTALLATION - IMPROPER - OWNER/BUILDER
3. (C) LIFT-OFF - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (F) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY DESCENT/LANDING

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

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	57
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 60 hours (Total, this make and model), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	FRANKLIN	Registration:	N3428
Model/Series:	EAA BI-PLANE/P1 EAA BI-PLA	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	UNDERWOOD, JACK E.	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-235-C
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:	HUF, 585 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 7000 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots / , 20°
Temperature:	14°C	Visibility	15 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	(718)	Destination:	

Airport Information

Airport:	BUTLER FIELD AIRPORT (718)	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Runway Used:	27	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	2600 ft / 500 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): STEPHEN A WILSON

Adopted Date: 01/29/1996

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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