



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

Location:	SEASIDE HEIGHTS, NJ	Accident Number:	NYC95LA211
Date & Time:	09/01/1995, 1530 EDT	Registration:	N5TB
Aircraft:	LAKE LA-4-200	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Minor, 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Personal

On September 1, 1995, at 1330 eastern daylight time, a Lake LA-4-200, N5TB, an amphibious airplane, sustained substantial damage during a water landing, following a loss of engine power on initial climb. The private pilot received minor injuries, and the passenger was not injured. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the local, personal flight. No flight plan was filed for the flight conducted under 14 CFR Part 91.

The pilot stated that during the water takeoff roll, the airplane bounced several times as it maneuvered through waves and boat wakes. After becoming airborne, about 10 feet, the engine lost total power. The pilot nosed the airplane over toward the water, and it impacted the water in a nose down attitude.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Inspector examined the airplane and noted that the fuselage was buckled. The FAA Inspector stated:

...A cursory inspection was performed on the...engine. A visual inspection was made and nothing abnormal was noted. The engine would rotate....Compression was obtained on all...cylinders and continuity was confirmed through the engine. The fuel filter was free of any contamination and residual fuel was noted. The fuel line at the flow divider was removed and residual fuel was noted. An operation check of the engine was made and nothing abnormal was noted.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	32, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Sea	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 150 hours (Total, this make and model), 15 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 15 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	LAKE	Registration:	N5TB
Model/Series:	LA-4-200 LA-4-200	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	609
Landing Gear Type:	Amphibian	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	10/20/1994, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	79 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1600 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	IO-360-A1B
Registered Owner:	THOMAS BUCK	Rated Power:	200 hp
Operator:	THOMAS BUCK	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0000	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear / 0 ft agl	Visibility	0 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	230°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	27° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	(NONE)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0000	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	SEASIDE PARK (NONE)	Runway Surface Type:	Water
Airport Elevation:	0 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Rough; Water--choppy
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	CHARLES F LEONARD
Additional Participating Persons:	KIRK P JAEGER; PHILADELPHIA, PA
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/ .