



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

Location:	WASHINGTON, DC	Accident Number:	IAD97LA071
Date & Time:	05/02/1997, 0125 EDT	Registration:	N1044P
Aircraft:	Piper PA-23	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

On May 2, 1997, at about 0125 eastern daylight time, N1044P, a Piper PA-23, operated by the commercial pilot, sustained substantial damage after impacting trees about 1000 feet short of runway 010 while executing an emergency landing/approach to Washington Dulles International Airport, Washington, DC. The pilot stated that both engines failed. The pilot and one passenger his wife, sustained minor injuries. Visual Meteorological conditions existed and an Instrument flight rules (IFR) flight plan was filed. The flight was conducted under the provisions of Title 14 CFR Part 91. The flight originated from the Lake in the Hills Airport, Lake in the Hills, Illinois, at about 2030 EDT on May 1, 1997.

The pilot stated that while enroute to Washington's National Airport, the right engine quite. He contacted Air Traffic and they vectored him to Dulles International Airport. The pilot stated that he had Dulles insight when the left engine quit. The pilot notified Air Traffic that they were not going to make the runway and crashed into the tops of trees and came to rest nose down in the trees.

The pilot stated the in the course of his flight planning he mistakenly read the fuel quantity for the aircraft as 108 gallons, which is the quantity for the auxiliary tank configuration. The pilot stated that he failed to catch his mistake until after the accident had occurred.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	33, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane; Helicopter	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	02/24/1997
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1363 hours (Total, all aircraft), 31 hours (Total, this make and model), 589 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 74 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 24 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N1044P
Model/Series:	PA-23 PA-23	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	23-46
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	04/26/1997, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	8 Hours	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3843 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, activated, aided in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-A3B
Registered Owner:	BELVIDERE AVIATION INC	Rated Power:	150 hp
Operator:	BELVIDERE AVIATION INC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Bright
Observation Facility, Elevation:	IAD, 313 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0151 EDT	Direction from Accident Site:	1°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear / 0 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 5000 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	320°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	12° C / 1° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	LAKE HILLS, IL (3CK)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	, DC (DCA)	Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	2045 CST	Type of Airspace:	Class B

Airport Information

Airport:	DULLES INTERNATIONAL (IAD)	Runway Surface Type:	Concrete
Airport Elevation:	313 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	1	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	11500 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced Landing

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	BUTCH WILSON
Additional Participating Persons:	NORMAN L SCHWANKE
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/ .