



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	JENSEN BEACH, FL	Accident Number:	MIA91LA090
Date & Time:	03/01/1991, 0200 EST	Registration:	N5282H
Aircraft:	CESSNA 152	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional

Analysis

THE FUEL TANKS WERE TOPPED OFF & THE ACFT WAS FLOWN FOR .5 HOUR BEFORE THE ACCIDENT PLT RENTED THE ACFT. NO FURTHER SERVICING WAS PERFORMED. THE ACCIDENT FLT DEPARTED WITH LESS-THAN-FULL TANKS & WHILE RETURNING TO LAND FOLLOWING AN APRX 3-HR FLT, THE ENG QUIT DUE TO FUEL EXHAUSTION. THE PLT STARTED IT MOMENTARILY BUT IT QUIT AGAIN. DURING THE LANDING ROLL FOLLOWING THE FORCED LANDING, THE ACFT COLLIDED WITH A PALM TREE. THE FUEL TANKS WERE DRAINED WHICH REVEALED THAT THEY CONTAINED 1.5 GALS. THE OWNER'S MANUAL STATES THAT THE UNUSABLE FUEL QUANTITY FOR BOTH FUEL TANKS IS 1.5 GALS. REVIEW OF ACFT RECORDS REVEALED THAT THE ACFT WAS OPERATED FOR 3.8 HRS SINCE LAST REFUELING.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: IMPROPER IN-FLIGHT PLANNING DECISION BY THE PILOT RESULTING IN THE TOTAL LOSS OF ENGINE POWER DUE TO FUEL EXHAUSTION. CONTRIBUTING TO THE ACCIDENT WERE THE UNRELIABLE FUEL QUANTITY INDICATORS.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION
2. (C) IN-FLIGHT PLANNING/DECISION - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) FUEL SYSTEM,FUEL QUANTITY FLOAT/SENSOR - UNRELIABLE

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

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

4. OBJECT - TREE(S)

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	30, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	11/01/1990
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	131 hours (Total, all aircraft), 105 hours (Total, this make and model), 84 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 91 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 61 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N5282H
Model/Series:	152 152	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	15284080
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	02/25/1991, 100 Hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1670 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	8 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	6750 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-235-L2C
Registered Owner:	J.R. LEASING, INC.	Rated Power:	110 hp
Operator:	TREASURE COAST FLIGHT ACADEMY	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Bright
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PBI, 19 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	50 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0155 EST	Direction from Accident Site:	167°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	8 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 10000 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	340°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	20° C / 19° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	FORT PIERCE, FL (FPR)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	STUART, FL (SUA)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0155 EST	Type of Airspace:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	TIMOTHY W MONVILLE	Report Date:	01/25/1993
Additional Participating Persons:	VERNON BENDER; FORT LAUDERDALE, FL		
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 pubinquiry@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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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](#).