



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	GRAND COULEE, WA	Accident Number:	SEA00LA027
Date & Time:	12/01/1999, 1730 PST	Registration:	N4617M
Aircraft:	Beech B-19	Injuries:	2 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

During a night cross-country instructional flight, the instructor chose to divert the aircraft to an alternate airport. While maneuvering in the area of the alternate airport, the aircraft collided with high-voltage power lines 3 miles from the airport. The power lines are approximately 250 feet AGL. Both pilots stated they were unable to recall any of the detailed events from the time they diverted to the alternate airport to the time of the accident. The power lines are displayed on the sectional chart.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain clearance from power transmission lines. Factors include dark night conditions.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. OBJECT - WIRE, TRANSMISSION
2. (C) CLEARANCE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND(CFI)
3. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Flight Instructor; Commercial	Age:	23
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Multi-engine; Airplane Single-engine; Instrument Airplane
Flight Time:	566 hours (Total, all aircraft), 297 hours (Total, this make and model), 497 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 210 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 54 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Beech	Registration:	N4617M
Model/Series:	B-19 B-19	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	BIG BEND COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-E3D
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	EPH, 1276 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 3000 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	11 knots / , 170°
Temperature:	6° C	Visibility	15 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	MOSES LAKE, WA (MWH)	Destination:	, WA (MWH)

Airport Information

Airport:	GRAND COULEE DAM (3W7)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	0	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:	4200 ft / 75 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 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): DENNIS J HOGENSON

Adopted Date: 05/22/2001

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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