



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	VICTORVILLE, CA	Accident Number:	LAX90LA272
Date & Time:	08/01/1990, 1730 PDT	Registration:	N1718M
Aircraft:	STINSON L-5B	Injuries:	1 Minor, 1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

WHILE EN ROUTE TO SANTA PAULA AIRPORT OVER A DESERT AREA, THE PILOT FELT A HOT OIL SPRAY EMANATING FROM BEHIND THE INSTRUMENT PANEL. HE ELECTED TO LAND IN AN OPEN FIELD. THE LANDING SITE SELECTED WAS NEAR HIGH TRANSMISSION WIRES, WHICH HE PROBABLY DID NOT SEE UNTIL THE AIRPLANE WAS ON FINAL APPROACH. THE PILOT PULLED THE AIRPLANE'S NOSE UP TO CROSS OVER THE TOP OF THE WIRES AND ALLOWED THE AIRSPEED TO RAPIDLY DECAY. THE AIRPLANE STALLED AND COLLIDED WITH THE TERRAIN. THE POST-ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REVEALED THE OIL PRESSURE GAUGE LINE 'B' NUT HAD BACKED OFF.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE OIL GAUGE LINE 'B' NUT BACKED OFF, AND THE PILOT FAILED TO MAINTAIN AIRSPEED.

Findings

Occurrence #1: AIRFRAME/COMPONENT/SYSTEM FAILURE/MALFUNCTION
Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

Findings

1. (C) LUBRICATING SYSTEM,OIL LINE - LOOSE
2. (C) FLUID,OIL - LEAK
3. PRECAUTIONARY LANDING - PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - FINAL APPROACH

Findings

4. OBJECT - WIRE, TRANSMISSION
5. MANEUVER - INITIATED - PILOT IN COMMAND
6. (C) AIRSPEED - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
7. (C) STALL - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

Findings

8. TERRAIN CONDITION - OPEN FIELD

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	37
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	185 hours (Total, all aircraft), 7 hours (Total, this make and model), 82 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 44 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 19 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	STINSON	Registration:	N1718M
Model/Series:	L-5B L-5B	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	WORLD WIDE AERONAUTICAL INC.	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-435-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:	, 0 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Pilot
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	15 knots / , 180°
Temperature:	32° C	Visibility	25 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	APPLE VALLEY, CA (APV)	Destination:	SANTA PAULA, CA (SZP)

Airport Information

Airport:	GEORGE AFB (VCV)	Runway Surface Type:	
Runway Used:	0	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:			

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): A.D. LLORTENTE Adopted Date: 09/10/1992

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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