



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	APPLE VALLEY, CA	Accident Number:	LAX88LA147
Date & Time:	04/01/1988, 1325 PST	Registration:	N2498D
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-38-112	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

DRG A FLT FROM HAWTHORNE TO DELANO, CA, THE PLT BECAME LOST, SAW AN ARPT & LANDED. AFTER LANDING, SHE LEARNED SHE WAS AT THE DEPUE ARPT, LENWOOD, CA. NO FUEL WAS AVAILABLE, SO SHE ELECTED TO FLY TO APPLE VALLEY, A DISTANCE OF ABOUT 17 MI. HOWEVER, BEFORE REACHING APPLE VALLEY, THE ENG LOST PWR FROM FUEL EXHAUSTION. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE ACFT HIT A BERM WHILE LANDING ON DESERT TERRAIN & WAS DAMAGED.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: MISCELLANEOUS/OTHER
Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

Findings

1. (F) BECAME LOST/DISORIENTED - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. PRECAUTIONARY LANDING - PERFORMED

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

3. (C) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION
5. (C) FUEL SUPPLY - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Occurrence #4: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

6. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - BERM

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	50, Female
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	10/05/1987
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	143 hours (Total, all aircraft), 141 hours (Total, this make and model), 97 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N2498D
Model/Series:	PA-38-112 PA-38-112	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Utility	Serial Number:	3879A0334
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	100 Hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1670 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	4 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2005 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-235-L2
Registered Owner:	RAYMOND F. RYBACK	Rated Power:	112 hp
Operator:	RAYMOND F. RYBACK	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:	1325	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear / 0 ft agl	Visibility	50 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	Calm /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	29° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	LENWOOD, CA (6CA8)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	APPLE VALLEY, CA (APV)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1315 PST	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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):	WAYNE R POLLACK	Report Date:	07/03/1989
Additional Participating Persons:	DONALD BERRY; RIVERSIDE, CA		
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](#).