



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	MERRIMAC, WI	Accident Number:	CHI88FA102
Date & Time:	05/01/1988, 1415 CDT	Registration:	N31288
Aircraft:	BELLANCA 7ECA	Injuries:	1 Fatal, 1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Business		

Analysis

THE PILOT HAD JUST TAKEN OFF FROM A PRIVATE STRIP AND IMMEDIATELY ENTERED A HIGH ANGLE OF BANK TURN TO THE LEFT AT LOW ALTITUDE. A WITNESS, WHO WAS AN EXPERIENCED AEROBATIC PILOT, ESTIMATED THE ANGLE OF BANK TO APPROACH 90 DEGREES. THE NOSE WAS SEEN TO PITCH DOWN, AND THE AIRPLANE DISAPPEARED BELOW THE TREE LINE. IMPACT WAS IN A FARMER'S FIELD ONE-QUARTER MILE FROM THE DEPARTURE END OF THE RUNWAY.

Probable Cause

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (C) MANEUVER - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) STALL/SPIN - ENCOUNTERED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) ALTITUDE - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	50
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	1048 hours (Total, all aircraft), 600 hours (Total, this make and model), 1000 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 12 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BELLANCA	Registration:	N31288
Model/Series:	7ECA 7ECA	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	WATERLOO FLYING CLUB	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-235-C1
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Business		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	MSN, 862 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots / , 70°
Temperature:	22° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Destination: MIDDLETON, WI (C29)		

Airport Information

Airport:	PRIVATE STRIP (NONE)	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Runway Used:	9	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	2100 ft / 50 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:			

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	MARK E DOUB	Adopted Date:	12/29/1989
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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