



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	RACINE, WI	Accident Number:	CHI88FAMS2
Date & Time:	08/01/1988, 1541 CDT	Registration:	N56352
Aircraft:	MOONEY M20K	Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE PRIVATE PILOT AND HIS PASSENGER DEPARTED ASPEN, COLORADO AT HIS ESTIMATED TIME OF 1000 CDT. NO FLIGHT PLAN WAS FILED. THE PILOT HAD REQUESTED FULL FUEL SERVICE AT ASPEN, BUT DID NOT PERFORM A VISUAL CHECK DURING PREFLIGHT. FLIGHT WAS CONDUCTED AT 13,500 FEET MSL. APPROXIMATELY 5 HOURS AND 33 MINUTES INTO FLIGHT THE PILOT ADVISED KANKAKEE AFSS THAT HE WAS OVER LAKE MICHIGAN AND 'LOW ON FUEL.' THE AIRCRAFT DITCHED AT APPROXIMATELY 1541 CDT. BOTH OCCUPANTS WERE RETRIEVED BY THE U.S. COAST GUARD 1 HOUR AND 30 MINUTES AFTER DITCHING. THE AIRCRAFT HAS NOT BEEN RECOVERED.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: ENGINE FAILURE DUE TO FUEL STARVATION.

Findings

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

Findings

1. (F) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION
3. EMERGENCY PROCEDURE - ATTEMPTED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

Occurrence #3: DITCHING
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

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:	1050 hours (Total, all aircraft), 980 hours (Total, this make and model), 1045 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 40 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 15 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	MOONEY	Registration:	N56352
Model/Series:	M20K M20K	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	WAYNE CHRISTENSON	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	TSIO-360
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:	MKE, 723 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	9 knots / , 210°
Temperature:	38° C	Visibility	15 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	ASPEN, CO (ASE)	Destination:	GRAND RAPIDS, MI (GRR)

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	E J MCAVOY	Adopted Date:	10/16/1990
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 pubin@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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