



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	WIXOM, MI	Accident Number:	CHI89LA082
Date & Time:	05/01/1989, 1500 EDT	Registration:	N132BC
Aircraft:	CESSNA 320D	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Minor, 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Other Work Use

Analysis

WHILE MANEUVERING FOR PURPOSES OF AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY, BOTH ENGINES ON THE CESSNA 320D FAILED DUE TO FUEL EXHAUSTION. THE PILOT DECLARED AN EMERGENCY AND WAS VECTORED TOWARD THE NEAREST AIRPORT. THE PILOT WAS UNABLE TO REACH THE AIRPORT, AND EXECUTED A FORCED LANDING IN A WOODED AREA APPROXIMATELY 1/2 MILE SOUTHEAST OF IT. THE PILOT STATED THAT HE HAD FORGOTTEN TO CHECK THE FUEL QUANTITY DURING THE PREFLIGHT INSPECTION.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: PILOT'S INATTENTION TO THE FUEL SYSTEM DURING PREFLIGHT AND INADEQUATE FUEL SYSTEM MONITORING THROUGHOUT THE FLIGHT.

Findings

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

Findings

1. (C) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) FUEL SUPPLY - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) INATTENTIVE - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Findings

5. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)
6. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - NONE SUITABLE

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	52, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	12/05/1988
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	3275 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2110 hours (Total, this make and model), 3010 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 41 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 31 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N132BC
Model/Series:	320D 320D	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	320D-0130
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	12/02/1988, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	4300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	95 Hours	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	5778 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	TSIO-520-B
Registered Owner:	AIR-LAND SURVEYS, INC.	Rated Power:	285 hp
Operator:	AIR-LAND SURVEYS, INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PTK, 980 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	11 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1445 EDT	Direction from Accident Site:	20°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 15000 ft agl	Visibility	12 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	15 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	60°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	12° C / -1° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	PONTIAC, MI (PTK)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1230 EDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	JODI L REEVES	Report Date:	01/31/1991
Additional Participating Persons:	SKIP BEEBE; DETROIT, MI		
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](#).