



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	DARLINGTON, SC	Accident Number:	ATL90FA022
Date & Time:	11/02/1989, 1130 EST	Registration:	N58735
Aircraft:	CESSNA 182P	Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

WHILE ATTEMPTING A VISUAL APPROACH TO AN UNCONTROLLED AIRPORT, THE AIRPLANE COLLIDED WITH TREES ABOUT TWO MILES NORTH EAST. THE PILOT REPORTED OVER THE AIRPORT, AND WOULD LOOK FOR A HOLE TO DESCEND THROUGH FOR A VISUAL LANDING. SECONDS LATER THE AIRPLANE CRASHED. THE INVESTIGATION FAILED TO DISCLOSE ANY MECHANICAL PROBLEMS. THE PILOT WAS NOT CERTIFICATED. HIS STUDENT PILOT'S CERTIFICATE HAD EXPIRED AND THERE WAS NO CURRENT SOLO ENDORSEMENT. THE UNICOM OPERATOR REPORTED LOW CEILING AND RAIN AT THE AIRPORT WHEN THE PILOT WAS ATTEMPTING THE LANDING APPROACH.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S CONTINUED VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC AND HIS ATTEMPT TO LAND THE AIRPLANE UNDER THE ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER
Phase of Operation: APPROACH

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - LOW CEILING
2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - RAIN
3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - FOG
4. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - CONTINUED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: APPROACH

Findings

5. OBJECT - TREE(S)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	None	Age:	46
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	206 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N58735
Model/Series:	182P 182P	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	A.R. RUSSELL BUILDERS	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-470R
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	FLO, 0 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Unknown
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 500 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots / , 350°
Temperature:	15° C	Visibility	2 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	RALEIGH, NC (RDU)	Destination:	

Airport Information

Airport:	DARLINGTON COUNTY (04J)	Runway Surface Type:	Macadam
Runway Used:	0	Runway Surface Condition:	Wet
Runway Length/Width:	5000 ft / 150 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): PHILLIP POWELL Adopted Date: 09/30/1991

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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