



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	SAN DIMAS, CA	Accident Number:	LAX87LA073
Date & Time:	01/01/1987, 1020 PST	Registration:	N5540H
Aircraft:	CESSNA 152	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

WITNESSES RPRTD THE ACFT HAD CIRCLED THE AREA 2 TIMES AT APRX 200' BEFORE IT HIT TREES & CRASHED. SUBSEQUENTLY, IT CAME TO REST AGAINST A RESIDENCE WHERE THE PLT'S SISTER LIVED. ACCORDING TO THE PLT, THE ENG STARTED 'SPUTTERING,' SO HE APPLIED CARB HEAT, BUT IT CONTD TO LOSE POWER. HOWEVER, NO PREIMPACT PART FAILURE OR MALFUNCTION WAS FND & WITNESSES RPRTD THE ENG WAS RUNNING NORMALLY BFR IMPACT. THE PAX RPRTD THEY HAD BEEN AT A PARTY THE NGT BFR & HAD BEEN DRINKING & SMOKING 'KOOLS' (COMMON STREET NAME FOR CIGARETTES DIPPED IN PHENCYLIDINE (PCP)). BASED ON THEIR OBSERVATIONS, SHERIFF DEPUTIES BELIEVED THE PLT WAS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF PCP. THEY NOTED PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS OF DRY MOUTH, DIFFICULTY WITH SPEECH, RIGID BODY MOVEMENTS, HORIZONTAL NYSTAGMUS TO THE EYES & FAINT PCP ODOR EMITTING FROM THE PLT'S BREATH & PERSON. THE DEPUTIES REQUESTED THAT THE PLT SUBMIT TO BLOOD OR URINE SAMPLES FOR DRUG AND/OR ALCOHOL USE; HOWEVER, HE REFUSED.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (C) JUDGMENT - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) IMPAIRMENT(DRUGS) - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) PROPER ALTITUDE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) BUZZING - PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)

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

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: OTHER

Findings

6. (F) OBJECT - RESIDENCE

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	45, 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--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	07/21/1986
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1366 hours (Total, all aircraft), 700 hours (Total, this make and model), 1178 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N5540H
Model/Series:	152 152	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	15284122
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	12/10/1986, 100 Hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1670 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	36 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	764 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	O-235-L2C
Registered Owner:	CASANOVA, JOHN P.	Rated Power:	110 hp
Operator:	KING AVIATION	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand Air Taxi (135)

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	POC, 1011 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	4 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1046 PST	Direction from Accident Site:	70°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Partial Obscuration / 0 ft agl	Visibility	3 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 18000 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	4 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	140°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	VAN NUYS, CA (VNY)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	LA VERNE, CA (POC)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0930 PST	Type of Airspace:	Class D

Airport Information

Airport:	BRACKETT (POC)	Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:	0 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	THOMAS M WILCOX	Report Date:	05/17/1988
Additional Participating Persons:	REID S WALBURG; LOS ANGELES, 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 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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