



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

<b>Location:</b>	AUGUSTA, GA	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ATL87LA078
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	03/01/1987, 2104 EST	<b>Registration:</b>	N2355Z
<b>Aircraft:</b>	BEECH 23	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Serious, 1 Minor
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

THE ACFT WAS FLOWN FROM A PVT STRIP TO A NRBY ARPT AT STATESBORO, GA FOR REFUELING. AFTER THE ACFT WAS REFUELED, THE ENG LOST PWR AS THE STUDENT PLT WAS TAXIING TO TAKEOFF. WATER WAS FND IN THE SUMPS, & RPRTDLY, 4 TO 6 SAMPLES WERE REQUIRED TO DRAIN WATER FROM EACH TANK. AFTER THE ENG WAS STARTED, THE ACFT WAS RPRDLY FLOWN TO SWAINSBORO, GA, THEN THE PLT TOOKOFF ON A FLT TO WAYNESBORO, GA WITH A PAX ABOARD. HE RPRTDLY MISSED HIS DESTN ARPT & STARTED AN APCH TO LAND AT BUSH FIELD AT AUGUSTA, GA. WHILE ON THE APCH, THE ENG LOST PWR & THE STUDENT PLT WAS UNABLE TO RESTART IT. DURING AN EMERG LANDING, THE ACFT COLLIDED WITH TREES & BOTH WINGS WERE EXTENSIVELY DAMAGED. A POST-CRASH EXAM REVEALED NO EVIDENCE OF A MECHANICAL FAILURE. FLUID THAT WAS DRAINED FROM THE CARBURETOR & GASCOLATOR WAS MOSTLY WATER. THE STUDENT PLT NOTED THAT THE ACFT'S FUEL TANKS HAD A TENDENCY TO ACCUMULATE WATER WHEN THE ACFT WAS PARKED FOR ANY LENGTH OF TIME; HOWEVER, THE SOURCE OF THE WATER WAS NOT VERIFIED. A CHECK OF THE STUDENT PLT'S BLOOD SHOWED AN ALCOHOL LVL OF 0.262%.

## Probable Cause

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

## Findings

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

### Findings

1. (C) JUDGMENT - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
  2. (C) IMPAIRMENT(ALCOHOL) - PILOT IN COMMAND
  3. PROCEDURES/DIRECTIVES - NOT FOLLOWED - PILOT IN COMMAND
  4. BECAME LOST/DISORIENTED
  5. INITIATED
  6. (C) FLUID,FUEL - WATER
  7. (C) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

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Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

#### Findings

8. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)

### Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	45
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	150 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BEECH	Registration:	N2355Z
Model/Series:	23 23	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	D & R CROPSPRAYING SERVICE	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-D2B
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

### Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	AGS, 145 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots / , 290°
Temperature:	12° C	Visibility	15 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	SWAINSBORO, GA (TBR)	Destination:	WAYNESBORO, GA (2J7)

### Airport Information

Airport:	BUSH FIELD (AGS)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	35	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:	8000 ft / 150 ft		

### Wreckage and Impact Information

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

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): SCOTT STRICKLAND Adopted Date: 02/03/1988

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](mailto: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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