



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	ALEXANDER CITY, AL	Accident Number:	ATL86LA068
Date & Time:	02/01/1986, 1500 CST	Registration:	N52238
Aircraft:	CESSNA 172P	Injuries:	1 Minor, 3 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE ACFT WAS OBSERVED TO MAKE ONE TAKEOFF AND LANDING FROM AN UNIMPROVED PASTURE. THE SECOND TAKEOFF ATTEMPTED WAS UNSUCCESSFUL AND THE ACFT COLLIDED WITH A TREE AND CRASHED TO THE GROUND. THE PLT DID NOT REPORT ANY MECHANICAL PROBLEMS WITH THE ACFT. THERE WERE THREE PASSENGERS ONBOARD FOR THIS LAST TAKEOFF ATTEMPT.

Probable Cause

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: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (F) UNSUITABLE TERRAIN OR TAKEOFF/LANDING/TAXI AREA - SELECTED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) IMPROPER DECISION - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) PERFORMANCE DATA - IMPROPER USE OF - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (C) ABORTED TAKEOFF - NOT PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
6. OBJECT - TREE(S)
7. (C) CLEARANCE - NOT OBTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	57
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None

Flight Time:

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N52238
Model/Series:	172P 172P	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	WILLIAM G.BIRCHFIELD	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-02J
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:	MGM, 221 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	7 knots / , 150°
Temperature:	22° C	Visibility	7 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	NEW SITE, AL	Destination:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	3 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None

Latitude, Longitude:

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	CHARLES T FOUTS	Adopted 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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