



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	BLOOMINGTON, MD	Accident Number:	BF087FA006
Date & Time:	11/01/1986, 1511 EST	Registration:	N5897U
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-28-140	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

WITNESSES OBSERVED 2 AIRCRAFT FLYING NEAR TREETOP LEVEL AND REPORTED THAT ONE APPEARED TO BE ABOUT 10 FEET BEHIND THE OTHER. THE LEAD AIRCRAFT COLLIDED WITH TREES WHEN THE PILOT DELAYED HIS PULLUP TO A POINT WHERE HE WAS UNABLE TO CLIMB OVER A RIDGE ON HIS ROUTE OF FLIGHT. BOTH AIRCRAFT WERE BEING FLOWN BY FOREIGN PILOTS ENROLLED IN THE OPERATOR'S PART 141 FLIGHT SCHOOL.

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. (F) MAINTENANCE,SERVICE OF AIRCRAFT/EQUIPMENT - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) BUZZING - INTENTIONAL - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) VISUAL LOOKOUT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (F) PULL-UP - DELAYED - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)
6. (C) STALL/MUSH - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

7. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - UPHILL

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	24, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	05/13/1986
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	132 hours (Total, all aircraft), 72 hours (Total, this make and model), 58 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 44 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N5897U
Model/Series:	PA-28-140 PA-28-140	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	2826799
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	10/02/1986, 100 Hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2050 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	89 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	5754 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-E2A
Registered Owner:	NICHOLSON AIR SERVICES INC.	Rated Power:	150 hp
Operator:	NICHOLSON AIR SERVICES INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:	CUMBERLAND AIRLINES	Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	MRB, 557 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	54 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1449 EST	Direction from Accident Site:	112°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 800 ft agl	Visibility	5 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 3500 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	160°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	11° C / 9° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	CUMBERLAND, MD (CBE)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1445 EST	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	AL DICKINSON	Report Date:	04/25/1988
Additional Participating Persons:	WALLACE NELSON; BALTIMORE, MD		
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](#).