



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

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|                                |                                      |                         |            |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| <b>Location:</b>               | CORTEZ, CO                           | <b>Accident Number:</b> | DEN86LA001 |
| <b>Date &amp; Time:</b>        | 10/01/1985, 1552 MDT                 | <b>Registration:</b>    | N9614S     |
| <b>Aircraft:</b>               | CHAMPION 7GCAA                       | <b>Injuries:</b>        | 2 None     |
| <b>Flight Conducted Under:</b> | Part 91: General Aviation - Business |                         |            |

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## Analysis

AFTER 3.9 HRS FLT TIME ON A X-COUNTRY FLT FROM CHEYENNE, WY, TO CORTEZ, CO, THE PLT EXPERIENCED AN ENG FAILURE DUE TO FUEL EXHAUSTION. HE EXECUTED A FORCED LANDING IN A MOUNTAIN MEADOW THAT WAS NOT ADEQUATE IN LENGTH FOR THE LANDING. THE ACFT IMPACTED TREES ON LANDING ROLL AT APRX 10 MPH.

## 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: CRUISE - NORMAL

### Findings

1. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INACCURATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION
3. (C) FUEL SUPPLY - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

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Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

### Findings

4. TERRAIN CONDITION - MOUNTAINOUS/HILLY
5. OBJECT - TREE(S)

## Pilot Information

|                                  |   |                              |                        |
|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Certificate:</b>              | Flight Instructor; Commercial   | <b>Age:</b>                  | 58                     |
| <b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>       | Single-engine Land  | <b>Instrument Rating(s):</b> | Airplane               |
| <b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b> | None  | <b>Instructor Rating(s):</b> | Airplane Single-engine |
| <b>Flight Time:</b>              | 2417 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2291 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 23 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft) |                              |                        |

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

|                                       |                                      |                             |                 |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Aircraft Make:</b>                 | CHAMPION                             | <b>Registration:</b>        | N9614S          |
| <b>Model/Series:</b>                  | 7GCAA 7GCAA                          | <b>Engines:</b>             | 1 Reciprocating |
| <b>Operator:</b>                      | GENE E. PATTON                       | <b>Engine Manufacturer:</b> | LYCOMING        |
| <b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b> | None                                 | <b>Engine Model/Series:</b> | O-320-A         |
| <b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>        | Part 91: General Aviation - Business |                             |                 |

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

|   |                    |                                     |                              |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>     | Visual Conditions  | <b>Condition of Light:</b>          | Day                          |
| <b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b> | CEZ, 5914 ft msl   | <b>Weather Information Source:</b>  | Weather Observation Facility |
| <b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>                  | None / 0 ft agl    | <b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b> | 5 knots / , 270°             |
| <b>Temperature:</b>                     | 21 °C              | <b>Visibility</b>                   | 60 Miles                     |
| <b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>   |                    |                                     |                              |
| <b>Departure Point:</b>                 | CHEYENNE, WY (CYS) | <b>Destination:</b>                 | CORTEZ, CO (CEZ)             |

## Wreckage and Impact Information

|                             |        |                            |             |
|-----------------------------|--------|----------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Crew Injuries:</b>       | 1 None | <b>Aircraft Damage:</b>    | Substantial |
| <b>Passenger Injuries:</b>  | 1 None | <b>Aircraft Fire:</b>      | None        |
| <b>Ground Injuries:</b>     | N/A    | <b>Aircraft Explosion:</b> | None        |
| <b>Latitude, Longitude:</b> |        |                            |             |

## Administrative Information

|                                      |  |                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------|--|
| <b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b> | PRENTISS MANGUM  | <b>Adopted Date:</b> |  |
| <b>Investigation Docket:</b>         | 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 <a href="mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> . |                      |  |

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