



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	DACULA, GA	Accident Number:	ATL86FA034
Date & Time:	12/01/1985, 2210 EST	Registration:	N9289J
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-28-180	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE ACFT COLLIDED WITH TREES 3.5 MILES FROM THE ARPT DURING AN INSTRUMENT APPROACH IN DENSE FOG. THE APPROACH REQUIRED AN ADF RECEIVER AND THE ACFT DID NOT HAVE ONE. THE MDA ON THE APPROACH WAS 1600 FT. THE ACFT IMPACTED THE TREES AT 1200 FT MSL. THE ACFT WAS TO HAVE NEW AVIONICS INSTALLED THE DAY AFTER THE ACCIDENT AT LAWRENCEVILLE. THE PLT WAS TO LEAVE TOWN THE SAME DAY ON BUSINESS.

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: APPROACH - FAF/OUTER MARKER TO THRESHOLD (IFR)

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - FOG
2. (C) PLANNING/DECISION - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) SELF-INDUCED PRESSURE - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) JUDGMENT - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (C) IFR PROCEDURE - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
6. OBJECT - TREE(S)
7. (C) MINIMUM DESCENT ALTITUDE - DISREGARDED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

8. TERRAIN CONDITION - GROUND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	47, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	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:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	01/17/1985
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1743 hours (Total, all aircraft), 734 hours (Total, this make and model), 1623 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 40 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N9289J
Model/Series:	PA-28-180 PA-28-180	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	28-3374
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	05/20/1985, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2400 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	140 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2835 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	AVCO LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-360-A3A
Registered Owner:	8A4 FLYERS	Rated Power:	180 hp
Operator:	8A4 FLYERS	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PDK, 1002 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	17 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	2151 EST	Direction from Accident Site:	250°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Thin Broken / 600 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Obscured / 2000 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	240°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	12° C / -18° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	MARIETTA, GA (8A4)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	LAWRENCEVILLE, GA (17A)	Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	0000	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Airport Information

Airport:	GWINNETT CO. (17A)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1036 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	25	IFR Approach:	Localizer Only
Runway Length/Width:	4000 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	BEN R COLEMAN	Report Date:	
Additional Participating Persons:	SCOTT STRICKLAND; ATLANTA, GA CLIFFORD ROSS; ATLANTA, GA ROBERT BOOB, JR.; VERO BEACH, FL		
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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