



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	WAITSFIELD, VT	Accident Number:	NYC84FA096
Date & Time:	03/02/1984, 1155 EST	Registration:	N4643C
Aircraft:	CESSNA A185F	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE ACFT COLLIDED WITH TREES DURING TAKEOFF. THE RWY WAS SNOW COVERED 4 TO 6 INCHES DEEP AND WAS ONLY 1800 FT LONG. THE TAKEOFF WAS ON A BEARING OF 130 DEGREES. THE WIND WAS FROM 280 DEGREES AT 14 KTS. THE SKIS ON THE ACFT HAD WHEELS PROTRUDING THROUGH AT THE MAXIMUM SETTING. DURING TAXI CONSIDERABLE POWER WAS NEEDED BECAUSE OF DRAG AND SNOW DENSITY. DURING TAKEOFF THE ACFT WAS AIRBORNE 3 TIMES. THE FLT WAS UNABLE TO CLEAR THE TREES SO THE PLT STALLED THE ACFT INTO THE THINNEST TREE AREA. THE PLT SAID THERE WERE NO PRE-IMPACT MALFUNCTIONS OF THE ACFT.

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: TAKEOFF

Findings

1. (F) LANDING GEAR,SKI ASSEMBLY - IMPROPER
2. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) AIRPORT FACILITIES,RUNWAY/LANDING AREA CONDITION - SNOW COVERED
4. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - TAILWIND
5. (C) UNSUITABLE TERRAIN OR TAKEOFF/LANDING/TAXI AREA - SELECTED - PILOT IN COMMAND
6. (C) ABORTED TAKEOFF - DELAYED - PILOT IN COMMAND
7. (F) STALL - PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
8. (F) AIRPORT FACILITIES,RUNWAY/LANDING AREA CONDITION - HIGH OBSTRUCTION(S)

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Flight Instructor; Commercial	Age:	39, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Multi-engine; Airplane Single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	01/11/1984
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	2835 hours (Total, all aircraft), 24 hours (Total, this make and model), 2600 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N4643C
Model/Series:	A185F A185F	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	02584
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	09/29/1983, 100 Hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3350 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	36 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1521 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520-D
Registered Owner:	STEPHEN G. PHILLIPS	Rated Power:	300 hp
Operator:	PETER PERLEE	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	
Operator Does Business As:	.	Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Dawn
Observation Facility, Elevation:	MPV, 1165 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	12 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1150 EST	Direction from Accident Site:	100°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 4000 ft agl	Visibility	12 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	14 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	280°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-11°C / -17°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	CHATHAM, MA (OB6)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1155	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	PHILLIPS PRIVATE	Runway Surface Type:	Snow
Airport Elevation:	800 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Snow--dry
Runway Used:	13	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	1800 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	CHAUNCEY D TWINE	Report Date:	
Additional Participating Persons:	EDWARD JOHNSON; PORTLAND, ME		
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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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](#).