



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	GLENS FALLS, NY	Accident Number:	NYC84FFA03
Date & Time:	06/30/1984, 1933 EDT	Registration:	N3283E
Aircraft:	AERONCA 11AC	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

A WITNESS NOTED THAT, ON TAKEOFF, THE ACFT APPEARED TO BE OUT OF CONTROL. IT ENTERED A NOSE HIGH ATTITUDE, THEN 'FELL.' THE PLT RECOVERED BEFORE THE ACFT HIT THE GROUND, BUT THE AIRPLANE 'OSCILLATED IN ALTITUDE UNTIL OUT OF LINE OF SIGHT.' SUBSEQUENTLY, THE ACFT COLLIDED WITH ROCKY TERRAIN ON ARPT PROPERTY ABOUT 1/4 MI FROM THE END OF THE RWY AND WAS DESTROYED. AN INVESTIGATION REVEALED THAT THE PLT HAD 2 CARDBOARD BOXES FULL OF HONEY JARS ABOARD. THERE WAS EVIDENCE THAT BOTH BOXES HAD BEEN LOCATED ON THE RIGHT SEAT NEXT TO THE PLT. ONE BOX WAS STILL FASTENED TO THE SEAT BY THE SEAT BELT, BUT THE OTHER BOX HAD BEEN THROWN FORWARD. THE INVESTIGATOR WAS UNABLE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE LATTER BOX HAD SHIFTED PRIOR TO OR AFTER IMPACT.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. MISC EQPT/FURNISHINGS,CARGO RESTRAINTS - OTHER
 2. TIE DOWN - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
 3. (C) AIRCRAFT HANDLING - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF

Findings

4. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - ROUGH/UNEVEN

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	39, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	01/13/1983
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:			

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	AERONCA	Registration:	N3283E
Model/Series:	11AC 11AC	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	11 AC-1654
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	12/16/1983, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1250 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	30 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	A-65-8
Registered Owner:	ELMER JOSEPH WHITMORE	Rated Power:	65 hp
Operator:	ELMER JOSEPH WHITMORE	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Dusk
Observation Facility, Elevation:	GFL, 328 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1935 EDT	Direction from Accident Site:	170°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 8000 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 10000 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	Calm /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	SANFORD, ME (FSM)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0000	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Airport Information

Airport:	WARREN COUNTY (GFL)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	328 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	19	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5000 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	ANN ELLIOT	Report Date:	
Additional Participating Persons:	RICHARD VOEHRINGER		
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](#).