



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	W. PALM BEACH, FL	Accident Number:	MIA83LA151
Date & Time:	06/01/1983, 1340 EDT	Registration:	N831PC
Aircraft:	PIPER PT 6A-28	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	3 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Business		

Analysis

WHILE ON AN OVER WATER FLT, BOTH ENGS LOST POWER & THE PLT DITCHED THE ACFT AT SEA. BEFORE DITCHING, THE PLT REPORTED THAT THE ACFT WAS OUT OF FUEL, THE ATC CONTROLLER CONTACTED A US COAST GUARD HELICOPTER THAT WAS ON HIS FREQUENCY & REQUESTED ASSISTANCE. THE HELICOPTER WAS FLOWN TO THE DITCHING AREA & THE DOWNED PERSONNEL WERE RESCUED.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

1. (C) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
 2. (C) FLUID - EXHAUSTION
 3. (C) FUEL SUPPLY - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
 4. AIRCRAFT PERFORMANCE, TWO OR MORE ENGINES - INOPERATIVE
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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: LANDING

Occurrence #3: DITCHING
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Flight Instructor	Age:	33, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Single-engine; Instrument Airplane	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	03/30/1983
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	6239 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1300 hours (Total, this make and model), 6119 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 88 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N831PC
Model/Series:	PT 6A-28 PT 6A-28	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	31T-8020001
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	05/20/1983, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	9000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Turbo Prop
Airframe Total Time:	1442 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	P&W
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	PT6A-28
Registered Owner:	BEECH AIRWAYS, INC.	Rated Power:	620 hp
Operator:	GEE AND JENSON, INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PBI, 16 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	2 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1350 EDT	Direction from Accident Site:	320°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 3000 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 3000 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	250°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	29° C / 22° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	ELEUTHERA ISL. (MYER)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	W. PALM BEACH, FL (PBI)	Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	1215 EDT	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	2 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	3 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	LUIS CARMONA	Report Date:	
Additional Participating Persons:			
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/ .		

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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](#).