



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	SHERIDAN, MI	Accident Number:	CHI83LA406
Date & Time:	09/01/1983, 1510 EDT	Registration:	N81TE
Aircraft:	EDWARDS MITCHELL P-38	Injuries:	1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE ACFT NOSED DOWN IN A CROP OF CORN DURING A FORCED LANDING AFTER THE ENGINE LOST POWER AT 200 FT AGL DURING TAKEOFF CLIMB. DURING THE TURN BACK TO THE AIRSTRIP THE LEFT WING STALLED. THE PILOT SAID HE RECOVERED ABOUT 10 FT AGL BUT THE CORN STALKS SLOWED THE ACFT AND FORCED THE NOSE DOWN. AFTER THE ACCIDENT AN INSPECTION SHOWED A FUEL LINE CRIMPED AGAINST THE TANK CAUSING A PARTIAL BLOCKING OF FUEL FLOW. THIS IS A HOMEBUILT ACFT.

Probable Cause

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(PARTIAL) - MECH FAILURE/MALF
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - STARVATION
2. (C) FUEL SYSTEM,LINE - BUCKLED

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Occurrence #3: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

3. (C) STALL - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	33
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Instructor Rating(s):	
Flight Time:	90 hours (Total, all aircraft), 82 hours (Total, this make and model), 82 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	EDWARDS	Registration:	N81TE
Model/Series:	MITCHELL P-38 MITCHELL P	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	THOMAS EDWARDS	Engine Manufacturer:	CUYUNA
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	NOT REPORTED
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	GRR, 794 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	6 knots / , 50°
Temperature:	24°C	Visibility	15 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Destination:	

Airport Information

Airport:	RUSSELL FIELD (NONE)	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Runway Used:	34	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	1700 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): PAMELA S KLECKNER

Adopted 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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