



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Santa Maria, CA	Accident Number:	LAX01LA163
Date & Time:	05/02/2001, 1320 PDT	Registration:	N34168
Aircraft:	Cessna 177B	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The airplane struck a pipe, cartwheeled, and came to rest inverted, following a go-around from a simulated forced landing. The pilot reported he had been taking photographs about 1,000 feet above ground level, then decided to practice engine out patterns. During the go-around from the second pattern he added power, retracted the flaps to 20 degrees, and was unable to prevent contact with the ground. The pilot further stated that it "felt like the elevator stalled."

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: A stall/mush inadvertently encountered by the pilot-in-command. Failure to maintain adequate airspeed for flight and inadequate remedial action contributed to the accident.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (F) AIRSPEED - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) STALL/MUSH - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) REMEDIAL ACTION - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

4. OBJECT - OTHER

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	71
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	665 hours (Total, all aircraft), 217 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N34168
Model/Series:	177B	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Stanley D Voris	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-360-A1F6
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:	SMX, 259 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	16 knots / , 300°
Temperature:	22° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Santa Maria (SMX)	Destination:	Santa Maria, CA

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	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):	FRANK H BAILY	Adopted Date:	11/28/2001
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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