



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Parkland, FL	Accident Number:	MIA04CA055
Date & Time:	03/03/2004, 1515 EST	Registration:	N61PS
Aircraft:	Aviat Pitts S2B	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot stated that an earlier flight had occurred, and that fuel had been ordered, but it was not delivered and placed in the airplane's fuel tanks. He further stated that the refueling error was not detected during the preflight inspection. He said they departed from the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport, and flew to the practice area to perform aerobatics, and as he rolled the airplane inverted, the engine hesitated. He said he immediately recognized that the airplane had not been refueled after the previous flight. Rather than fly over populated areas, the pilot said he elected to make a precautionary landing on a dirt road close to the practice area, and during the rollout the airplane veered to the left, off the dirt road and nosed over into a water filled canal, incurring damage.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequate preflight planning which resulted in an off-airport precautionary landing to preclude fuel exhaustion, which resulted in damage to the airplane during the landing.

Findings

Occurrence #1: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

1. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. REFUELING - NOT PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. PRECAUTIONARY LANDING - ATTEMPTED - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. TERRAIN CONDITION - GRASS
5. AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT POSSIBLE - PILOT IN COMMAND
6. TERRAIN CONDITION - DITCH

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	56
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	2557 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1887 hours (Total, this make and model), 2417 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 47 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 29 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	Aviat	Registration:	N61PS
Model/Series:	Pitts S2B	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	David J. Swartz	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	AEIO540D4A5
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	FXE, 14 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	None
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	13 knots, 100°
Temperature:	26° C / 17° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Fort Lauderdale, FL (FXE)	Destination:	(FXE)

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	
Runway Used:		Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:			

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	John W Lovell	Adopted Date:	06/02/2004
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
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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