



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

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<b>Location:</b>	Atwater, CA	<b>Accident Number:</b>	LAX07CA181
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	06/01/2007, 1115 PDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N86698
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Dutton Air Camper	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

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## Analysis

The airplane experienced a loss of engine power and nosed over in a field during the forced landing. The pilot reported that after flying for about 40 minutes he noticed the oil temperature gauge begin to rise. He had started looking for a suitable place to land when the oil temperature and engine temperature gauges both went beyond the red line. At 2,500 feet the engine made loud metallic clanking noises and began to shake violently. He shut the engine down and proceeded to make an emergency landing in a plowed field. The airplane nosed over during the ground roll. Examination of the antique Ford Model B engine revealed that the connecting rod for the number 2 piston failed. The time since last overhaul on the engine was 6 hours.

## Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: a loss of power due to the failure of the number 2 connecting rod.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - MECH FAILURE/MALF  
Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

### Findings

1. (C) ENGINE ASSEMBLY,CONNECTING ROD - FAILURE  
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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING  
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY DESCENT/LANDING  
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Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY LANDING

### Findings

2. TERRAIN CONDITION - PLOWED/FURROWED  
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Occurrence #4: NOSE OVER  
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY LANDING

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Airline Transport	<b>Age:</b>	73
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Multi-engine Land; Multi-engine Sea; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	24000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 50 hours (Total, this make and model), 120 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Manufacturer:</b>	Dutton	<b>Registration:</b>	N86698
<b>Model/Series:</b>	Air Camper	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Operator:</b>	Lennert Von Clemm	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Ford
<b>Air Carrier Operating Certificate:</b>	None	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	Model B
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>		<b>Weather Information Source:</b>	Pilot
<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual Conditions	<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None
<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day	<b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b>	Light and Variable
<b>Temperature:</b>	26° C	<b>Visibility</b>	10 Miles
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Hollister, CA (KPDT)	<b>Destination:</b>	Merced, CA (KMCE)

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	McCready-Merced, CA (KMCE)	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	
<b>Runway Used:</b>	NA	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>			

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Van S McKenny	<b>Adopted Date:</b>	07/25/2007
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	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 <a href="mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> .		

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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.