



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Preliminary Report

Location:	Fresno, CA	Accident Number:	WPR15LA175
Date & Time:	06/02/2015, 1955 PDT	Registration:	N3567H
Aircraft:	MOONEY AIRCRAFT CORP. M20K	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

On June 2, 2015, about 1955 Pacific daylight time, a Mooney M20K, N3567H, experienced a loss of engine power near Fresno, California. The airplane was registered to, and operated by, the pilot under the provisions of 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91. The private pilot, who was the sole occupant, was not injured, and the airplane sustained substantial damage to both wings and the forward fuselage during the subsequent forced landing at Fresno Chandler Executive Airport. The cross-country personal flight departed Shafter Airport-Minter Field, Shafter, California, about 1915, with a planned destination of Mc Clellan Airfield, Sacramento, California. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and no flight plan had been filed.

The pilot reported that about 1/2 hour after takeoff, while cruising at an altitude of 8,500 ft mean sea level, he noticed a slight increase in engine speed from 2,450 to about 2,460 rpm. He retarded the throttle and the engine did not respond appropriately, so he began to adjust the propeller control. A short time later he heard an explosion and the engine rapidly accelerated beyond the tachometer limits. He retarded the engine controls and initiated a descent into Fresno Chandler Executive Airport. He reached the airport environment with about 2,500 feet of altitude remaining, and attempted a landing on runway 30R, which at that time was closed. The airplane landed on the overrun area and came to rest on a dirt verge after striking the perimeter fence.

Post accident examination revealed multiple perforations and holes in the engine crankcase, with oil streaks present along the lower side of the airplane's fuselage.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	MOONEY AIRCRAFT CORP.	Registration:	N3567H
Model/Series:	M20K	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Amateur Built:	No		
Operator:	On file	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	KFAT, 279 ft msl	Observation Time:	0153 UTC
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 6000 ft agl	Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Temperature/Dew Point:	28°C / 8°C
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	13 knots, 310°	Visibility	10 Miles
Altimeter Setting:	29.87 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Departure Point:	SHAFTER, CA (MIT)	Destination:	SACRAMENTO, CA (MCC)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Elliott Simpson
Additional Participating Persons:	Michael Coberly; Federal Aviation Administration FSDO; Fresno, CA
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.