



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	MIAMI LAKES, FL	Accident Number:	MIA83FA064
Date & Time:	01/26/1983, 1239 EST	Registration:	N9003Y
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-31	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation -		

Analysis

THE PLT & A PROSPECTIVE BUYER/PASSENGER WERE ON A LOCAL DEMONSTRATION FLT. PRIOR TO THIS FLT, THE ACFT HAD BEEN PARKED FOR NEARLY 1 YR. SINCE THE LAST ANNUAL INSPECTION ON 1/12/82, IT HAD BEEN FLOWN ONLY 66 HRS. DURING THE PREFLT, THE PLT FOUND THE FUEL TANKS BETWEEN 1/4 FULL & EMPTY. THE SUMPS WERE DRAINED, THE MAIN TANKS WERE FILLED, THEN THE SUMPS WERE DRAINED AGAIN. AFTER TAKEOFF, THE PLT LEVELED THE ACFT AT 1500 FT IN A CRUISE CONFIGURATION. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, THE LEFT ENG BEGAN RUNNING ROUGH, BACKFIRING & LOSING POWER. THE PLT TURNED BACK TOWARD THE ARPT, BUT THE ENG LOST ALL POWER & THE PROP WAS FEATHERED. WHILE RETURNING, THE RIGHT ENG'S CYLINDER HEAD & OIL TEMP BEGAN RISING ABOVE THE RED LINE. SUBSEQUENTLY, IT BEGAN LOSING POWER & A WHEELS-UP, FORCED LANDING WAS MADE IN AN OPEN FIELD. AN EXAM REVEALED THAT BOTH ENGS WERE OUT OF TIME, FIRING WAS INTERMITTENT 1 DISTRIBUTOR BLOCK ON THE LEFT ENG WAS BURNED DUE TO INCORRECT TIMING. ALSO, THE LEFT TURBOCHARGER GATE WAS STUCK OPEN & THE LEFT FUEL FILTER WAS PARTIALLY CLOGGED.

Probable Cause and Findings

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: CRUISE - NORMAL

Findings

1. (C) MAINTENANCE - INADEQUATE - OTHER MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL
2. (F) IGNITION SYSTEM,MAGNETO - INCORRECT
3. (F) MAINTENANCE,ADJUSTMENT - IMPROPER - OTHER MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL
4. (F) IGNITION SYSTEM,DISTRIBUTOR - ARCING
5. (F) FUEL SYSTEM,FILTER - BLOCKED(PARTIAL)
6. (F) MAINTENANCE,INSPECTION - INADEQUATE - OTHER MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL
7. (F) FLUID,FUEL - STARVATION
8. (F) EXHAUST SYSTEM,TURBOCHARGER - BINDING(MECHANICAL)
9. (F) AIRCRAFT PERFORMANCE,TWO OR MORE ENGINES - FAILURE,PARTIAL

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: LANDING

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

10. (F) WHEELS UP LANDING - PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	36, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	03/11/1983
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1717 hours (Total, all aircraft), 217 hours (Total, this make and model), 1592 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 61 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N9003Y
Model/Series:	PA-31 PA-31	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	31-7
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	7
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	01/12/1983, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	6500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	66 Hours	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	5312 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	TSIP-540 A2B
Registered Owner:	BURT WEECH	Rated Power:	310 hp
Operator:	BURT WEECH	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	OPF, 9 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	3 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1247	Direction from Accident Site:	90°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 0 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	10 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	110°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	24° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0000	Type of Airspace:	Class D

Airport Information

Airport:	OPA LOCKA (OPF)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	9 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	9	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	8002 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Straight-in

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	LUIS	CARMONA	Report Date:
Additional Participating Persons:			
Publish 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.ntsb.gov/pubdms/ .		

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