



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	WEST MIFFLIN, PA	Accident Number:	NYC86FA213
Date & Time:	08/15/1986, 2247 EDT	Registration:	N27EE
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-46-310P	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Fatal, 2 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Business		

Analysis

AT 2232 EDT, THE ACFT WAS CLIMBING TO 15000 FEET WHEN THE PILOT REPORTED A LOW OIL PRESSURE LIGHT. ATC ADVISED JIMMY STEWART FIELD IS ABOUT ELEVEN THIRTY AND 15 MILES. AFTER THE PILOT ASKED, 'IS THAT A TOWER FIELD?', ATC ADVISED HE DID NOT KNOW, WESTMORELAND COUNTY IS AT TWO O'CLOCK AND ABOUT 15 MILES, TURN RIGHT 180 DEGREES, DESCEND AND MAINTAIN 4000 FEET. AT 2233 EDT, ATC SAID THAT THEY BELIEVE WESTMORELAND COUNTY TOWER IS CLOSED DOWN. THE PILOT SAID THAT HE WAS THINKING OF WHERE HE SHOULD GO AND ATC ADVISED PITTSBURGH'S 35 MILES AWAY IF YOU CAN MAKE THAT. AT 2234:35 EDT, THE ACFT WAS RETURNING TO PITTSBURGH WHEN THE PILOT REPORTED ZERO OIL PRESSURE AND AN OIL LIGHT. AT 2237:27 EDT, THE PILOT REPORTED AN EMERGENCY. FLT WAS CLEARED TO ALLEGHENY CO ARPT & ADVISED MONROEVILLE ARPT 230 HDG & 5 MI. THE ACFT CRASHED AT 2247 EDT. THE INVESTIGATION SHOWED A LOOSE FLANGE NUT ON LEFT TURBO CHARGER FEED LINE FINGER TIGHT. TEST PRODUCED A STEADY LEAK. AT SITE OIL COVERED BOTTOM OF FUSELAGE AND EMPENNAGE.

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: CLIMB - TO CRUISE

Findings

1. (C) LUBRICATING SYSTEM,OIL TUBING - LOOSE
2. (C) MAINTENANCE - INADEQUATE - OTHER MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL
3. (C) FLUID,OIL - EXHAUSTION
4. (C) ENGINE ASSEMBLY - FAILURE,PARTIAL
5. (F) EMERGENCY PROCEDURE - DELAYED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - TURN TO LANDING AREA (EMERGENCY)

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - TURN TO LANDING AREA (EMERGENCY)

Findings

6. (C) IN-FLIGHT PLANNING/DECISION - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Flight Instructor; Commercial	Age:	26, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	08/27/1985
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1166 hours (Total, all aircraft), 127 hours (Total, this make and model), 1031 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 284 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 127 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N27EE
Model/Series:	PA-46-310P PA-46-310P	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	46-8608036
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	07/16/1986, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	4100 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	116 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	349 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	TS10-520-BE
Registered Owner:	J. MEADE WILLIAMSON	Rated Power:	310 hp
Operator:	J. MEADE WILLIAMSON	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	AGC, 1252 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	2250 EDT	Direction from Accident Site:	270°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 3000 ft agl	Visibility	5 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 10000 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	6 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	190°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	24° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	PITTSBURGH, PA (PIT)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:	PHILADELPHIA, PA (PHL)	Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	2216 EDT	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	CHAUNCEY D TWINE, JR.	Report Date:	08/11/1988
Additional Participating Persons:	DAVID F KOUNTZ CHARLES G RUGGIERO DON O WHEELER KENNETH E SHUMAN; WEST MIFFLIN, PA		
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.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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