



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| <b>Location:</b>               | MONTAGUE, TX                         | <b>Accident Number:</b> | FTW86FA059 |
| <b>Date &amp; Time:</b>        | 04/05/1986, 1430 CST                 | <b>Registration:</b>    | N810Q      |
| <b>Aircraft:</b>               | BEECH 65                             | <b>Aircraft Damage:</b> | Destroyed  |
| <b>Defining Event:</b>         |                                      | <b>Injuries:</b>        | 1 Fatal    |
| <b>Flight Conducted Under:</b> | Part 91: General Aviation - Personal |                         |            |

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## Analysis

THE PILOT WAS OBSERVED IN THE AREA FOR SEVERAL MINUTES WHILE HE WAS PERFORMING STEEP CLIMBS AND DESCENTS, LOW PASSES, AND BUZZING. WITNESSES REPORTED POWER WAS REMOVED FROM BOTH ENGINES SIMULTANEOUSLY, AS IF THE THROTTLES WERE RETARDED, FOLLOWED BY A LOUD POP. THE AIRCRAFT BEGAN TO WOBBLE SLIGHTLY AND THEN A SURGE OF ENGINE POWER WAS HEARD ONLY SECONDS BEFORE TREE IMPACT OCCURRED. THE AIRCRAFT THEN YAWED SHARPLY AND IMPACTED THE GROUND.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

## Findings

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Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

### Findings

1. (C) AIRSPEED - NOT IDENTIFIED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) LOW PASS - PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) BUZZING - PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (F) OVERCONFIDENCE IN PERSONAL ABILITY - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (F) OSTENTATIOUS DISPLAY - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

### Findings

6. (C) OBJECT - TREE(S)

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Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

|                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                        |            |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Certificate:              | Private                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Age:                   | 67, Male   |
| Airplane Rating(s):       | Multi-engine Land                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Seat Occupied:         | Left       |
| Other Aircraft Rating(s): | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Restraint Used:        | Seatbelt   |
| Instrument Rating(s):     | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Second Pilot Present:  | No         |
| Instructor Rating(s):     | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Toxicology Performed:  | Yes        |
| Medical Certification:    | Class 3 Valid Medical--w/<br>waivers/lim.                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Last FAA Medical Exam: | 07/11/1985 |
| Occupational Pilot:       | Last Flight Review or Equivalent:                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                        |            |
| Flight Time:              | 10624 hours (Total, all aircraft), 50 hours (Total, this make and model), 10124 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 18 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft) |                        |            |

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

|                               |                                                           |                                   |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aircraft Make:                | BEECH                                                     | Registration:                     | N810Q           |
| Model/Series:                 | 65 65                                                     | Aircraft Category:                | Airplane        |
| Year of Manufacture:          |                                                           | Amateur Built:                    | No              |
| Airworthiness Certificate:    | Normal                                                    | Serial Number:                    | LC-26           |
| Landing Gear Type:            | Retractable - Tricycle                                    | Seats:                            | 6               |
| Date/Type of Last Inspection: | 06/14/1985, Annual                                        | Certified Max Gross Wt.:          | 7700 lbs        |
| Time Since Last Inspection:   | 169 Hours                                                 | Engines:                          | 2 Reciprocating |
| Airframe Total Time:          | 5779 Hours                                                | Engine Manufacturer:              | LYCOMING        |
| ELT:                          | Installed, activated, did not<br>aid in locating accident | Engine Model/Series:              | IGSO-480-A1A6   |
| Registered Owner:             | RAYMOND C. JOPLING, JR.                                   | Rated Power:                      | 340 hp          |
| Operator:                     | RAYMOND C. JOPLING, JR.                                   | Operating Certificate(s)<br>Held: | None            |

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

|                                  |                         |                                         |                   |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Conditions at Accident Site:     | Visual Conditions       | Condition of Light:                     | Day               |
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | SPS, 1015 ft msl        | Distance from Accident Site:            | 45 Nautical Miles |
| Observation Time:                | 1353 CST                | Direction from Accident Site:           | 275°              |
| Lowest Cloud Condition:          | Scattered / 3000 ft agl | Visibility                              | 10 Miles          |
| Lowest Ceiling:                  | None / 0 ft agl         | Visibility (RVR):                       | 0 ft              |
| Wind Speed/Gusts:                | 10 knots /              | Turbulence Type<br>Forecast/Actual:     | /                 |
| Wind Direction:                  | 170°                    | Turbulence Severity<br>Forecast/Actual: | /                 |
| Altimeter Setting:               | 29 inches Hg            | Temperature/Dew Point:                  | 28° C / 17° C     |
| Precipitation and Obscuration:   |                         |                                         |                   |
| Departure Point:                 | OKLAHOMA CITY, OK (PWA) | Type of Flight Plan Filed:              | None              |
| Destination:                     | BOWIE, TX (OF2)         | Type of Clearance:                      | VFR               |
| Departure Time:                  | 1249 CST                | Type of Airspace:                       | Class G           |

## Wreckage and Impact Information

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

## Administrative Information

|                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |              |  |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| Investigator In Charge (IIC):     | J O JOHNSON                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Report Date: |  |
| Additional Participating Persons: | ANN STONE; DALLAS, TX                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |              |  |
| 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 <a href="mailto:pubinquiry@ntsb.gov">pubinquiry@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 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. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).