



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	PONTIAC, MI	Accident Number:	CHI92LA237
Date & Time:	08/06/1992, 1410 EDT	Registration:	N90RG
Aircraft:	BEECH C90	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Executive/Corporate		

Analysis

PILOT WAS ON FINAL APPROACH WHEN HE STATED HE GOT A FUEL CROSSFEED 'WARNING' LIGHT. HE THEN PROCEEDED TO TRY TO TROUBLE SHOOT THE FUEL SYSTEM BY CYCLING THE RIGHT BOOST PUMP SWITCH, AND 'RESET AND ARM' THE AUTO CROSSFEED. HE STATED THE CROSSFEED LIGHT CAME ON AGAIN FOLLOWED BY THE RIGHT FUEL PRESSURE LIGHT, AND HE EXPERIENCED A POWER LOSS ON THE RIGHT SIDE. WHEN HE FEATHERED THE RIGHT ENGINE, THE LEFT ENGINE ALSO EXPERIENCED A LOSS OF POWER. THE PILOT CLEANED UP THE AIRPLANE AND DITCHED IN THE LAKE SHORT OF THE AIRPORT. THE INVESTIGATION REVEALED THE LEFT WING FUEL TANKS WERE EMPTY, AND THE LEFT NACELLE TANK WAS COLLAPSED. THE RIGHT WING FUEL TANKS WERE EMPTY, AND THE RIGHT NACELLE TANK CONTAINED 19 GALLONS OF FUEL. THE FUEL SUPPLY, TRANSFER, AND CROSSFEED SYSTEMS WERE FUNCTIONALLY CHECKED, AND WERE OPERABLE. ALL COCKPIT FUEL SYSTEM LIGHTS INDICATED NORMAL SYSTEM OPERATION.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S NOT UNDERSTANDING THE FUEL SYSTEM, AND HIS SUBSEQUENT INADVERTENT DISCONTINUANCE OF FUEL TO BOTH ENGINES.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - IAF TO FAF/OUTER MARKER (IFR)

Findings

1. 2 ENGINES
 2. (C) FUEL SYSTEM - NOT UNDERSTOOD - PILOT IN COMMAND
 3. FLUID,FUEL - STARVATION
 4. (C) FUEL SUPPLY - DISCONTINUED - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Findings

5. TERRAIN CONDITION - WATER
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Occurrence #3: DITCHING
Phase of Operation: LANDING

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport	Age:	32, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	07/23/1992
Occupational Pilot:	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:		
Flight Time:	2114 hours (Total, all aircraft), 261 hours (Total, this make and model), 2049 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 63 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 17 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BEECH	Registration:	N90RG
Model/Series:	C90 C90	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	LJ-546
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	8
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	05/18/1992, Continuous Airworthiness	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	9650 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	66 Hours	Engines:	2 Turbo Prop
Airframe Total Time:	8487 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	P&W
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	PT6A-20
Registered Owner:	JABIL CIRCUIT COMPANY, INC.	Rated Power:	550 hp
Operator:	JABIL CIRCUIT COMPANY, INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PTK, 980 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	3 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1412 EDT	Direction from Accident Site:	90°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 5000 ft agl	Visibility	15 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	12 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	150°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	24° C / 9° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	HOLLAND, MI (C19)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	1335 EDT	Type of Airspace:	Class E

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	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	MARK E DOUB	Report Date:	06/30/1993
Additional Participating Persons:	MARTHA WINNARD; DETROIT, MI ARTHUR WARNER; DETROIT, MI MARK DURHAM; DETROIT, MI		
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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