



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	LAREDO, TX	Accident Number:	FTW87LA180
Date & Time:	07/28/1987, 2102 CDT	Registration:	N39DT
Aircraft:	DOUGLAS DC-3A	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 125: 20+ Pax,6000+ lbs		

Analysis

THE LEFT ENGINE FAILED DURING INITIAL CLIMB IMMEDIATELY AFTER LIFTOFF. AIRSPEED COULD NOT BE MAINTAINED WITH ONE ENGINE OUT DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE AIRCRAFT WAS CLIMBING SLOWLY JUST ABOVE THE SURFACE AND WAS LOADED TO 3,809 POUNDS ABOVE ITS MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE TAKEOFF GROSS WEIGHT. AN EMERGENCY LANDING WAS ATTEMPTED BUT DIRECTIONAL CONTROL WAS LOST AND THE AIRCRAFT STALL/MUSHED AND COLLIDED WITH THE TERRAIN ALONGSIDE THE RUNWAY. THE LEFT ENG WAS EXAMINED AFTER THE ACC AND NO MALFUNCTIONS FOUND.

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
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (C) 1 ENGINE - FAILURE, TOTAL
2. POWERPLANT - UNDETERMINED

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

3. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) AIRCRAFT WEIGHT AND BALANCE - EXCEEDED - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (C) AIRSPEED(VS) - NOT POSSIBLE - PILOT IN COMMAND
6. (C) STALL/MUSH - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: LANDING

Occurrence #4: MAIN GEAR COLLAPSED
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

7. (F) LANDING GEAR, MAIN GEAR - OVERLOAD
8. (F) LANDING GEAR, MAIN GEAR - FAILURE, TOTAL

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport	Age:	36, 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:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last Medical Exam:	01/13/1987
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	8500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 6000 hours (Total, this make and model), 25 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	DOUGLAS	Registration:	N39DT
Model/Series:	DC-3A DC-3A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	4870
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	26900 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	P&W
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	R-1830
Registered Owner:	LA MESA LEASING INC	Rated Power:	900 hp
Operator:	FERRETERIA E.IMPLEMENTOS	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	HIGA

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Dusk
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Observation Time:	0000
Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear / 0 ft agl	Temperature/Dew Point:	26 °C / 21 °C
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	10 knots, 120°	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	0 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	CUIDAD CARARGO, MX (CCC)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	2100 CDT	Type of Airspace:	Class D

Airport Information

Airport:	LAREDO INT'L (LRD)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt; Concrete
Airport Elevation:	508 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	14	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5926 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	J O JOHNSON	Adopted Date:	11/08/1988
Additional Participating Persons:	FRED DRYDEN; SAN ANTONIO, TX CHARLES GRIENKE; SAN ANTONIO, TX ROBERT ANDERSON; SAN ANTONIO, 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 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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