



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	ISLA VERDE, PR	Accident Number:	MIA89FA096
Date & Time:	03/01/1989, 1614 AST	Registration:	N28PR
Aircraft:	DOUGLAS DC-3	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled		

Analysis

THE CREW OF AN ALL CARGO FLIGHT EXPERIENCED A FAILURE OF THE LEFT ENGINE WHILE IN THE TRAFFIC PATTERN AT THEIR DESTINATION. THEY RAISED THE LANDING GEAR BUT FAILED TO FEATHER THE LEFT PROPELLER AND FAILED TO TRIM THE AIRCRAFT. THE RESULTING SKID AND INCREASED DRAG MADE FURTHER FLIGHT IMPOSSIBLE. THE CREW ELECTED TO DITCH THE AIRCRAFT IN A LAGOON ABOUT 2 MILES SOUTHWEST OF THE AIRPORT. THE AIRCRAFT WAS NOT RECOVERED FROM THE LAGOON AND THEREFORE IT WAS NOT DETERMINED WHY THE LEFT ENGINE LOST POWER.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE FAILURE OF THE FLIGHT CREW TO FEATHER THE LEFT PROPELLER AND TRIM THE AIRCRAFT AFTER THE LEFT ENGINE STOPPED PRODUCING POWER FOR UNDETERMINED REASONS.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER

Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - BASE TURN

Findings

1. 1 ENGINE
2. (C) POWERPLANT - UNDETERMINED

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Findings

3. (C) EMERGENCY PROCEDURE - NOT PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) PROPELLER FEATHERING - NOT PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. AIRCRAFT PERFORMANCE - DETERIORATED
6. (C) TRIM SETTING - NOT USED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Findings

7. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - WATER

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport	Age:	60, 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 1 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last Medical Exam:	12/24/1988
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	24067 hours (Total, all aircraft), 6467 hours (Total, this make and model), 87 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 25 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	DOUGLAS	Registration:	N28PR
Model/Series:	DC-3 DC-3	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	6323
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	02/14/1989, AAIP	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	26200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	3 Hours	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	36115 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	WRIGHT
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	R-1820-G202
Registered Owner:	DEL CARIBBEAN CORP	Rated Power:	1200 hp
Operator:	BORINQUEN AIR	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	Air Cargo
Operator Does Business As:	DIAZ AVIATION CORP	Operator Designator Code:	FITA

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	SJU, 13 ft msl	Observation Time:	1620 AST
Distance from Accident Site:	2 Nautical Miles	Direction from Accident Site:	80°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear / 0 ft agl	Temperature/Dew Point:	28° C / 18° C
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility	7 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	12 knots, 90°	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	0 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	ST. KITTS, CB (SKPK)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	SAN JUAN, PR (SJU)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	1450 AST	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	LUIS MUNOZMARIN (SJU)	Runway Surface Type:	Water
Airport Elevation:	0 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Water--choppy
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic Pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	ANDREW A ALSTON	Adopted Date:	05/22/1990
Additional Participating Persons:	TOM SCHULTZ; SAN JUAN, PR		
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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