
		NTSB ID: FTW93FA187		Aircraft Registration Number: N2977A	
		Occurrence Date: 06/12/1993		Most Critical Injury: Fatal	
		Occurrence Type: Accident		Investigated By: NTSB	
Location/Time					
Nearest City/Place TEXAS CITY		State TX	Zip Code 77590	Local Time 1553	Time Zone CDT
Airport Proximity: Off Airport/Airstrip		Distance From Landing Facility:		Direction From Airport:	
Aircraft Information Summary					
Aircraft Manufacturer BELLANCA		Model/Series 8KCAB		Type of Aircraft Airplane	
Sightseeing Flight: No			Air Medical Transport Flight: No		
Narrative					
Brief narrative statement of facts, conditions and circumstances pertinent to the accident/incident:					
HISTORY OF FLIGHT					
<p>On June 12, 1993, at 1553 central daylight time, a Bellanca 8KCAB, N2977A, was destroyed upon impact with terrain following a loss of control while performing aerobatics maneuvers near Texas City, Texas. The private pilot, sole occupant of the airplane, was fatally injured. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the personal flight.</p>					
<p>According to the pilot's instructor, the airplane departed the LaPorte Airport, near Houston, Texas, at approximately 1425 enroute to the local practice area to go through his aerobatics sequence in preparation for acrobatic competition. Witnesses observed the airplane executing aerobatics maneuvers over a reservoir. On his last maneuver, the nose was observed to pitch up abruptly, followed by the nose dropping towards the ground and developing into a spin.</p>					
<p>The airplane impacted on a levee on the east side of the reservoir approximately 500 feet west of the Texas State Highway 146, within the city limits of Texas City. One of the persons fishing at the reservoir observed an object come out of the airplane at the time of impact, and ran to the accident site. The witness observed the pilot floating approximately 35 feet from the wreckage, and jumped in the water to retrieve the body.</p>					
PERSONNEL INFORMATION					
<p>The pilot had previously competed in aerobatics meets in the sportsman category. He flew a one hour flight the morning of the accident and conferred with his instructor pilot over lunch that afternoon.</p>					
AIRCRAFT INFORMATION					
<p>The airplane was topped off with 16.4 gallons of 100LL aviation fuel just prior to departure. A review of the airframe and engine records by the Federal Aviation Administration inspector did not reveal any anomalies or uncorrected maintenance defects prior to the flight.</p>					
WRECKAGE AND IMPACT INFORMATION					
<p>The airplane impacted on the east shore of the Galveston County reservoir on a measured heading of 010 degrees. The propeller and powerplant were found partially buried in a crater 16 inches deep by 30 inches wide. Flight control continuity was established to all flight controls.</p>					
<p>Examination of the airframe and engine at the accident site did not disclose any mechanical problems or anomalies that would have prevented normal operations.</p>					
FACTUAL REPORT - AVIATION					

 <p>National Transportation Safety Board <b>FACTUAL REPORT</b> AVIATION</p>	NTSB ID: FTW93FA187
	Occurrence Date: 06/12/1993
	Occurrence Type: Accident

## Narrative (Continued)

## MEDICAL AND PATHOLOGICAL INFORMATION


An autopsy and toxicological tests were ordered and performed. The autopsy was performed at the Galveston County forensic facilities by Dr. William E. Korndorffer, Chief Medical Examiner, on June 13, 1993. Toxicology tests were negative.


## SURVIVAL ASPECTS

The acrobatic airplane was equipped with quick release emergency window exits. The red emergency door release handle for the right cabin window was found in the unlocked or open position with the safety pins partially removed. The pilot's seat belts and shoulder harnesses were found in the unlocked position. An approved parachute was worn by the pilot. The pilot was ejected from the airplane and was found in the water.

## ADDITIONAL DATA

The wreckage was released to the owner at the accident site on June 13, 1993. The airworthiness certificate, aircraft registration, and the aircraft flight manual were returned to the owner's representative on June 15, 1993.

 <b>National Transportation Safety Board</b> <b>FACTUAL REPORT</b> <b>AVIATION</b>		NTSB ID: FTW93FA187				
		Occurrence Date: 06/12/1993				
		Occurrence Type: Accident				
<b>Landing Facility/Approach Information</b>						
Airport Name		Airport ID:	Airport Elevation Ft. MSL	Runway Used 0	Runway Length	Runway Width
Runway Surface Type:						
Runway Surface Condition:						
Type Instrument Approach:						
VFR Approach/Landing:						
<b>Aircraft Information</b>						
Aircraft Manufacturer BELLANCA		Model/Series 8KCAB		Serial Number 631-30		
Airworthiness Certificate(s): Acrobatic; Utility						
Landing Gear Type: Tailwheel						
Homebuilt Aircraft? No	Number of Seats: 2	Certified Max Gross Wt. 1800 LBS		Number of Engines: 1		
Engine Type: Reciprocating	Engine Manufacturer: LYCOMING		Model/Series: AEIO-360-H1A	Rated Power: 180 HP		
- Aircraft Inspection Information						
Type of Last Inspection 100 Hour	Date of Last Inspection 05/1993	Time Since Last Inspection 50 Hours		Airframe Total Time 3000 Hours		
- Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) Information						
ELT Installed? Yes	ELT Operated? No		ELT Aided in Locating Accident Site?			
<b>Owner/Operator Information</b>						
Registered Aircraft Owner HARVEY AND RIHN AVIATION INC.		Street Address 101 AIRPORT				
		City LAPORTE	State TX	Zip Code 77571		
Operator of Aircraft Same as Reg'd Aircraft Owner		Street Address Same as Reg'd Aircraft Owner				
		City	State	Zip Code		
Operator Does Business As:			Operator Designator Code:			
- Type of U.S. Certificate(s) Held: None						
Air Carrier Operating Certificate(s):						
Operating Certificate:			Operator Certificate:			
Regulation Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation						
Type of Flight Operation Conducted: Personal						
FACTUAL REPORT - AVIATION						

 <p><b>National Transportation Safety Board</b> <b>FACTUAL REPORT</b> <b>AVIATION</b></p>	NTSB ID: FTW93FA187
	Occurrence Date: 06/12/1993
	Occurrence Type: Accident

**First Pilot Information**

Name On File	City On File	State On File	Date of Birth On File	Age 34
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Sex: M	Seat Occupied: Front	Principal Profession: Engineer	Certificate Number: On File
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Certificate(s): Private

Airplane Rating(s): Single-engine Land

Rotorcraft/Glider/LTA: None

Instrument Rating(s): None

Instructor Rating(s): None

Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft? No	Current Biennial Flight Review?
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Medical Cert.: Class 3	Medical Cert. Status: Unknown	Date of Last Medical Exam: 02/1991
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- Flight Time Matrix	All A/C	This Make and Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multi-Engine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
						Actual	Simulated			
Total Time	190	57	190		15		4			
Pilot In Command(PIC)	134	57	134		10					
Instructor										
Last 90 Days	20	20								
Last 30 Days	2	2								
Last 24 Hours	1	1								

Seatbelt Used? Yes	Shoulder Harness Used? Yes	Toxicology Performed? Yes	Second Pilot? No
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**Flight Plan/Itinerary**

Type of Flight Plan Filed: None

Departure Point Same as Accident/Incident Location	State	Airport Identifier	Departure Time 1425	Time Zone CDT
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Destination Local Flight	State	Airport Identifier	
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Type of Clearance: None

Type of Airspace: Class G

**Weather Information**

Source of Briefing:  
No record of briefing

Method of Briefing:

 <p><b>National Transportation Safety Board</b> <b>FACTUAL REPORT</b> <b>AVIATION</b></p>	NTSB ID: FTW93FA187
	Occurrence Date: 06/12/1993
	Occurrence Type: Accident

<b>Weather Information</b>					
WOF ID	Observation Time	Time Zone	WOF Elevation	WOF Distance From Accident Site	Direction From Accident Site
EFD	1558	CDT	0 Ft. MSL	15 NM	300 Deg. Mag.
Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition: Scattered			3000 Ft. AGL	Condition of Light: Day	
Lowest Ceiling: Overcast		25000 Ft. AGL		Visibility: 8 SM	Altimeter: 30.00 "Hg
Temperature: 29 °C	Dew Point: 22 °C	Wind Direction: 100		Density Altitude: 1700 Ft.	
Wind Speed: 12	Gusts:	Weather Conditions at Accident Site: Visual Conditions			
Visibility (RVR): 0 Ft.	Visibility (RVV)	SM	Intensity of Precipitation: Unknown		
Restrictions to Visibility: None					
Type of Precipitation: None					

<b>Accident Information</b>		
Aircraft Damage: Destroyed	Aircraft Fire: None	Aircraft Explosion: None

Classification: U.S. Registered/U.S. Soil					
- Injury Summary Matrix	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None	TOTAL
First Pilot	1				1
Second Pilot					
Student Pilot					
Flight Instructor					
Check Pilot					
Flight Engineer					
Cabin Attendants					
Other Crew					
Passengers					
- TOTAL ABOARD -	1				1
Other Ground	0	0	0		0
- GRAND TOTAL -	1	0	0		1

National Transportation Safety Board

**FACTUAL REPORT**

**AVIATION**



NTSB ID: FTW93FA187

Occurrence Date: 06/12/1993

Occurrence Type: Accident

Administrative Information

Investigator-In-Charge (IIC)

HECTOR R. CASANOVA

Additional Persons Participating in This Accident/Incident Investigation:

MICHAEL D KNUCKEY  
FAA FSDO  
HOUSTON, TX 77061

IVON A BORGEN  
FAA FSDO  
HOUSTON, TX 77061