



# **Aviation Investigation Factual Report**

Location: SLEETMUTE, Alaska Accident Number: ANC98LA149

Date & Time: September 13, 1998, 10:22 Local Registration: N1754U

Aircraft: Cessna 207 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** 4 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 135: Air taxi & commuter - Non-scheduled

#### **Factual Information**

On September 13, 1998, about 1022 Alaska daylight time, a wheel equipped Cessna 207 airplane, N1754U, sustained substantial damage during takeoff from a remote private airstrip, about 51 miles south of Sleetmute, Alaska. The airplane was being operated as a visual flight rules (VFR) on-demand passenger flight under Title 14 CFR Part 135 when the accident occurred. The airplane was operated by Inland Aviation Services Inc., Aniak, Alaska. The certificated commercial pilot, and the three passengers, were not injured. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed. VFR company flight following procedures were in effect.

The operator reported the airplane was departing downhill on runway 14 at the Taylor Mountain Mine airstrip. The dirt/gravel airstrip, elevation 1,000 feet msl, is 1,950 feet long, and 12 feet wide. When the pilot rotated the airplane for takeoff, he heard a loud bang. After lift off, the pilot discovered the elevator was jammed in the up position. He lowered the flaps, and reduced engine power. The pilot was able to control the airplane's pitch attitude by holding full forward elevator pressure on the control yoke, and applying full nose down trim. The flight landed at Aniak without further problems. After landing, an inspection of the airplane revealed a dent in the underside of the aft edge of the left stabilizer, and the leading edge of the elevator. The dent was in-line with the left landing gear tire.

The landing gear of the accident airplane is 10 feet wide.

#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	53,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medicalw/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	July 24, 1998
Occupational Pilot:	Yes Last Flight Review or Equivalent:		
Flight Time:	1940 hours (Total, all aircraft), 250 hours (Total, this make and model), 1890 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 125 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 31 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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### **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N1754U
Model/Series:	207 207	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	20700354
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	7
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3800 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520-F
Registered Owner:	INLAND HOLDINGS INC.	Rated Power:	300 Horsepower
Operator:	INLAND AVIATION SERVICES INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Commuter air carrier (135), On-demand air taxi (135)
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	B7TC

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)		Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:			Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:			<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear		Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None		Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	4 knots / Non	e	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	315°		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:			Temperature/Dew Point:	7°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration	on; No Precipita	tion	
Departure Point:	(AK64)		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Company VFR
Destination:	ANIAK (	(PANI)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	10:22 Local		Type of Airspace:	Class G

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## **Airport Information**

Airport:	TAYLOR MOUNTAIN MINE AK64	Runway Surface Type:	Gravel
Airport Elevation:	1000 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
Runway Used:	14	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	1950 ft / 12 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

### Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	3 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	4 None	Latitude, Longitude:	61.680027,-157.159133(est)

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Erickson, Scott		
Additional Participating Persons:	GLENN SMITH (FAA); ANCHORAGE , AK		
Report Date:	February 16, 1999		
Last Revision Date:			
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>		
Note:			
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=43982		

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, "accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person" (Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB's statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 United States Code section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 United States Code section 1154(b) is available here.

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