



Aviation Investigation Factual Report

Location:	Faribault, Minnesota	Accident Number:	CHI01LA330
Date & Time:	September 26, 2001, 18:30 Local	Registration:	N273B
Aircraft:	Colonial C-2	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Factual Information

On September 26, 2001, about 1830 central daylight time, a Colonial C-2, N273B, piloted by an airline transport pilot, sustained substantial damage when the landing gear collapsed during landing on runway 20 (2,230 feet by 140 feet, turf) at the Faribault Municipal Airport, Faribault, Minnesota. The 14 CFR Part 91 personal flight was not on a flight plan and was operating in visual meteorological conditions. No injuries were reported. The local flight originated about 1800.

A postaccident examination of the airplane revealed that the right main landing gear air-oil shock absorber (oleo) was broken. Further examination revealed that the end cap of the oleo was separated from the outer tube of the oleo. The end cap was held in place by two bolts, 180 degrees apart, inserted radially through the outer tube. The bolts were then threaded into the machined end cap. The holes in the outer tube were elongated and torn out to the end of the tube. Further examination revealed a second set of holes through the outer tube about 90 degrees to the first set of holes. The second set of holes also revealed elongation of the holes.

According to the airplane owner, the right oleo was an original part. The left strut had been replaced with a new strut since the airplane was manufactured in 1959.

According to the airplane type certificate holder, it is an approved repair procedure to rotate the outer tube of the oleo and drill a second set of holes when elongation of the first set is discovered.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Commercial; Flight engineer; Flight instructor	Age:	36,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Glider	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	February 5, 2001
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	June 1, 2001
Flight Time:	4600 hours (Total, all aircraft), 115 hours (Total, this make and model), 1950 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 200 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 75 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Colonial	Registration:	N273B
Model/Series:	C-2	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	131
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle; Amphibian	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	May 11, 2001 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2350 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	64 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1711 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	O-360
Registered Owner:	Hiram P. Gates	Rated Power:	180 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	FBL,1060 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	18:36 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	0 knots / None	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	0°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.06 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	17°C / 3°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Faribault, MN (FBL)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	18:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	FARIBAULT MUNI FBL	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	1060 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	20	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2230 ft / 140 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	44.28997,-93.270309(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Brannen, John

Additional Participating Persons: Glen Bloomquist; FAA-Minneapolis, Minnesota - FSDO; Minneapolis, MN

Report Date: May 15, 2002

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: [Class](#)

Note:

Investigation Docket: <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=53562>

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