



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: PORTER, Texas Accident Number: FTW95LA133

Date & Time: March 8, 1995, 18:00 Local Registration: N2621S

Aircraft: CESSNA 337C Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

THE PILOT INADVERTENTLY LANDED THE AIRPLANE GEAR-UP. THE PILOT REPORTED THAT HE WAS DISTRACTED BY A FLAPPING NOISE AND FORGOT TO VISUALLY CHECK THE POSITION OF THE LANDING GEAR. HE TOLD HIS MECHANIC THAT THERE WAS NOTHING WRONG WITH THE LANDING GEAR SYSTEM. A STRUCTURAL BOX BEAM WAS DAMAGED DURING GROUND SLIDE.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S FAILURE TO EXTEND THE LANDING GEAR. FACTORS WERE HIS FAILURE TO USE A CHECKLIST AND HIS DIVERTED ATTENTION.

Findings

Occurrence #1: WHEELS UP LANDING

Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

1. (F) CHECKLIST - NOT FOLLOWED - PILOT IN COMMAND

2. (F) DIVERTED ATTENTION - PILOT IN COMMAND

3. (C) GEAR EXTENSION - NOT PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

On March 8, 1995, at 1800 central standard time, a Cessna 337C, N2621S, was substantially damaged while landing at the Williams Airport, near Porter, Texas. The private pilot and his passenger were not injured. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the personal flight.

According to a witness at the airport, the airplane made the approach with the landing gear retracted. During the flare, the pilot started to add power just before the propeller blades contacted the asphalt runway.

The pilot told his mechanic that there was nothing wrong with the landing gear system, and that he recalled hearing the landing gear unsafe warning horn during the flare to land. Between one quarter to one half inch of material was ground off a structural box beam on the belly of the aircraft during the ground slide.

In the enclosed pilot/operator report, the pilot stated that he put the gear down and "something flapping distracted his attention, and while looking for the unusual noise, he forgot to visually check the landing gear."

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	62,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medicalw/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	February 10, 1995
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	397 hours (Total, all aircraft), 80 hours (Total, this make and model), 291 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 15 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N2621S
Model/Series:	337C 337C	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	337-0921
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	March 7, 1995 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	4400 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	21 Hrs	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2421 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360-C
Registered Owner:	B & J WORRELL FLYING SERVICE	Rated Power:	210 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	IAH ,100 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	12 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	18:50 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	180°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	20 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	10 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	360°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	13°C / -6°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	(9XS2)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	17:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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Airport Information

Airport:	WILLIAMS AIRPORT 9XS2	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	122 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	35	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2700 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

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:	30.099121,-95.290229(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Casanova, Hector	
Additional Participating Persons:	RICHARD C BORG; HOUSTON , TX	
Original Publish Date:	August 23, 1995	
Last Revision Date:		
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>	
Note:		
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=19365	

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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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