



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

|                                |                             |                         |             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Location:</b>               | GRAND ISLE, Louisiana       | <b>Accident Number:</b> | FTW84LA201  |
| <b>Date &amp; Time:</b>        | April 15, 1984, 17:00 Local | <b>Registration:</b>    | N2177Q      |
| <b>Aircraft:</b>               | CESSNA A185F                | <b>Aircraft Damage:</b> | Substantial |
| <b>Defining Event:</b>         |                             | <b>Injuries:</b>        | 4 None      |
| <b>Flight Conducted Under:</b> | Part 91: General aviation   |                         |             |

## Analysis

THE PLT ESTIMATED THAT THE WIND WAS FROM THE NORTHEAST AT 15 KTS GUSTING TO 25 KTS. DURING AN EASTERLY TAKEOFF FROM A PRIVATE STRIP, THE ACFT ENCOUNTERED A GUST WHICH LIFTED THE LEFT WING CAUSING THE PLANE TO DRIFT RIGHT & LIFT OFF. THE ACFT CLIMBED TO AN ALT OF ABOUT 30 FT AGL, BUT WOULD NOT REMAIN AIRBORNE. IT SETTLED INTO A MARSH WHERE THE LEFT GEAR COLLAPSED & THE ACFT NOSED OVER.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

### Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

#### Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - HIGH WIND
2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - CROSSWIND
3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - GUSTS
4. (C) COMPENSATION FOR WIND CONDITIONS - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. LIFT-OFF - PREMATURE - PILOT IN COMMAND
6. PROPER ALIGNMENT - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
7. (C) STALL/MUSH - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

- 8. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - WET
- 9. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - SOFT

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Occurrence #3: MAIN GEAR COLLAPSED  
Phase of Operation: OTHER

Findings

- 10. LANDING GEAR,MAIN GEAR - OVERLOAD

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Occurrence #4: NOSE OVER  
Phase of Operation: OTHER

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

|                                  |   |  |              |
|----------------------------------|---|--|--------------|
| <b>Certificate:</b>              | Private   | <b>Age:</b>                              | 39, Male     |
| <b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>       | Single-engine land; Multi-engine land   | <b>Seat Occupied:</b>                    | Left         |
| <b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b> | None  | <b>Restraint Used:</b>                   |              |
| <b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>     | None  | <b>Second Pilot Present:</b>             | No           |
| <b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>     | None  | <b>Toxicology Performed:</b>             | No           |
| <b>Medical Certification:</b>    | Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.  | <b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>            | June 9, 1983 |
| <b>Occupational Pilot:</b>       | No  | <b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b> |              |
| <b>Flight Time:</b>              | 3006 hours (Total, all aircraft), 116 hours (Total, this make and model), 2920 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 36 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft) |  |              |

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

|                                      |                          |                                       |                 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Aircraft Make:</b>                | CESSNA                   | <b>Registration:</b>                  | N2177Q          |
| <b>Model/Series:</b>                 | A185F A185F              | <b>Aircraft Category:</b>             | Airplane        |
| <b>Year of Manufacture:</b>          |                          | <b>Amateur Built:</b>                 |                 |
| <b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>    | Normal                   | <b>Serial Number:</b>                 | 18503914        |
| <b>Landing Gear Type:</b>            | Tailwheel                | <b>Seats:</b>                         | 6               |
| <b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b> | Annual                   | <b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>       | 3350 lbs        |
| <b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>   |                          | <b>Engines:</b>                       | 1 Reciprocating |
| <b>Airframe Total Time:</b>          | 662 Hrs                  | <b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>           | CONTINENTAL     |
| <b>ELT:</b>                          | Installed, not activated | <b>Engine Model/Series:</b>           | IO-520-D        |
| <b>Registered Owner:</b>             | NEWTRON INC.             | <b>Rated Power:</b>                   | 300 Horsepower  |
| <b>Operator:</b>                     |                          | <b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b> | None            |
| <b>Operator Does Business As:</b>    |                          | <b>Operator Designator Code:</b>      |                 |

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

|   |                                  |   |         |
|---|----------------------------------|---|---------|
| <b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>     | Visual (VMC)                     | <b>Condition of Light:</b>                  | Day     |
| <b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b> |                                  | <b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>         |         |
| <b>Observation Time:</b>                |                                  | <b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>        |         |
| <b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>          | Clear                            | <b>Visibility</b>                           | 7 miles |
| <b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>                  | None                             | <b>Visibility (RVR):</b>                    |         |
| <b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>                | 15 knots / 25 knots              | <b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>     | /       |
| <b>Wind Direction:</b>                  | 45°                              | <b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b> | /       |
| <b>Altimeter Setting:</b>               |                                  | <b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>               | 21°C    |
| <b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>   | No Obscuration; No Precipitation |   |         |
| <b>Departure Point:</b>                 |                                  | <b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>           | None    |
| <b>Destination:</b>                     | BATON ROUGE , LA                 | <b>Type of Clearance:</b>                   | None    |
| <b>Departure Time:</b>                  | 17:00 Local                      | <b>Type of Airspace:</b>                    | Class G |

## Airport Information

|                             |                |                                  |            |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Airport:</b>             | ELMER'S ISLAND | <b>Runway Surface Type:</b>      | Grass/turf |
| <b>Airport Elevation:</b>   |                | <b>Runway Surface Condition:</b> | Dry        |
| <b>Runway Used:</b>         | 9              | <b>IFR Approach:</b>             | None       |
| <b>Runway Length/Width:</b> | 2800 ft        | <b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>     |            |

## Wreckage and Impact Information

|                            |        |                             |                          |
|----------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Crew Injuries:</b>      | 1 None | <b>Aircraft Damage:</b>     | Substantial              |
| <b>Passenger Injuries:</b> | 3 None | <b>Aircraft Fire:</b>       | None                     |
| <b>Ground Injuries:</b>    | N/A    | <b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>  | None                     |
| <b>Total Injuries:</b>     | 4 None | <b>Latitude, Longitude:</b> | 29.23981,-89.980018(est) |

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Mcfall, T

**Additional Participating Persons:**

**Original Publish Date:**

**Last Revision Date:**

**Investigation Class:** [Class](#)

**Note:**

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=21311>

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