



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: SOLDOTNA, Alaska Accident Number: ANC93LA133

Date & Time: August 1, 1993, 12:00 Local Registration: N68578

Aircraft: BELLANCA 7GCBC Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

### **Analysis**

WITNESSES REPORTED SEEING THE AIRPLANE TOUCH DOWN SHORT OF THE RUNWAY AND NOSE OVER.

### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S FAILURE TO ATTAIN A PROPER TOUCHDOWN POINT. A FACTOR WAS THE PILOT'S IMPROPER IN FLIGHT PLANNING/DECISION.

### **Findings**

Occurrence #1: UNDERSHOOT Phase of Operation: LANDING

#### **Findings**

1. (C) PROPER TOUCHDOWN POINT - NOT ATTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

2. (F) IN-FLIGHT PLANNING/DECISION - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER

Phase of Operation: LANDING

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Occurrence #3: NOSE OVER Phase of Operation: LANDING

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#### **Factual Information**

#### HISTORY OF FLIGHT

On August 1, 1993, at 1200 Alaska daylight time, a wheel equipped Bellanca 7GCBC airplane, N68578, landed short of the approach end of the runway, then nosed over at Soldotna, Alaska. The private pilot, the sole occupant, was not injured. The airplane was substantially damaged. The personal local flight, operating under 14 CFR Part 91, had departed from the Soldotna Airport about 15 minutes prior to the accident. Visual meteorological conditions existed, and no flight plan was filed.

Shortly after the accident the pilot stated that one of the airplane's brakes locked up while performing a post maintenance high speed taxi. One witness, Mr. Richard Reed, stated that the airplane nosed over after it touched down short of the runway during landing. Several other persons reportedly witnessed the accident but would not identify themselves. Officer John Gregory from the Soldotna Police Department, stated that he found ground scars that indicated that the airplane touched down short of the runway.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Following the accident FAA Inspector David S. McGlothlen, FSDO-03, Anchorage, Alaska, interviewed the pilot, Mr. Theodore A. Smith. At that time the pilot stated that the accident occurred while he was practicing short field landings. On NTSB Form 6120.1/2 (Accident Report), the pilot reported that he was practicing aborted takeoffs on short fields, and applied the brakes too "aggressively".

#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Private	Age:	44,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Expired	Last FAA Medical Exam:	February 2, 1988
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1400 hours (Total, all aircraft), 150 hours (Total, this make and model), 1400 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

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

Aircraft Make:	BELLANCA	Registration:	N68578
Model/Series:	7GCBC 7GCBC	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Aerobatic	Serial Number:	412-72
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	January 2, 2000 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	200 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1200 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	0-320
Registered Owner:	SMITH, THEODORE A.	Rated Power:	160 Horsepower
Operator:	SMITH, THEODORE A.	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:	SXQ ,107 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	13:05 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	360°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Scattered / 2000 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 5000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	230°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	18°C / 11°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipita	ation	
Departure Point:	(SXQ)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	(SXQ)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	11:45 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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## **Airport Information**

Airport:	SOLDOTNA SXQ	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	107 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
Runway Used:	25	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4973 ft / 130 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

### Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	60.319831,-150.789093(est)

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Daw, Roy	
Additional Participating Persons:	DAVID S MCGLOTHLEN; ANCHORAGE , AK	
Original Publish Date:	June 30, 1994	
Last Revision Date:		
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>	
Note:		
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=2393	

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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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