

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	BUCKEYE, Arizona		Accident Number:	LAX86LA086
Date & Time:	January 11, 1986, 12:45	Local	Registration:	N95009
Aircraft:	TAYLORCRAFT	BC12-D	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:			Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation	- Personal		

Analysis

WHILE ON A PERSONAL FLIGHT TO A PRIVATELY OWNED AIRSTRIP, THE ACFT COLLIDED WITH WIRES LOCATED AT THE WEST END OF THE AIRSTRIP WHILE ON FINAL APPROACH TO RUNWAY 08. THE PILOT INITIALLY REPORTED THAT HE HAD MISJUDGED THE AIRCRAFT HEIGHT AND COLLIDED WITH THE WIRES. IN THE PILOT/OPERATOR AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT REPORT FORM THE PILOT REPORTED THAT THE SUN PREVENTED HIM FROM SEEING THE WIRES. THE LOCATION AND BEARING TO THE SUN AT THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT WAS 35 DEG ABOVE THE HORIZON AND A MAGNETIC BEARING OF ABOUT 169 DEG. THE WIRES WERE UNMARKED AND REMOVED BY THE ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY SUBSEQUENT TO THE ACCIDENT.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - FINAL APPROACH

Findings

1. (F) OBJECT - WIRE, TRANSMISSION

2. (C) VISUAL LOOKOUT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

(C) ALTITUDE - MISJUDGED - PILOT IN COMMAND (C) CLEARANCE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

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Certificate:	Private	Age:	56,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
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 Valid Medicalw/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	October 29, 1985
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	319 hours (Total, all aircraft), 36 hours (Total, this make and model), 169 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	TAYLORCRAFT	Registration:	N95009
Model/Series:	BC12-D BC12-D	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	9409
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	November 1, 1985 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1722 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	A65-8
Registered Owner:	NELSON H. DYESS, M.D.	Rated Power:	65 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:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	20 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	15 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	90°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	18°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	PHOENIX , AZ (PHX)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	BUCKEYE , AZ	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	12:15 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	TUCKEY AIRSTRIP	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Airport Elevation:	1000 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	8	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Llorente, A.	
Additional Participating Persons:	EDWARD J PRENTICE; SCOTTSDALE , AZ	
Original Publish Date:		
Last Revision Date:		
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>	
Note:		
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=25049	

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.