



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: JACKSON, California Accident Number: LAX96LA047

Date & Time: November 17, 1995, 12:30 Local Registration: N100AV

Aircraft: BEECH D-50 Aircraft Damage: Destroyed

Defining Event: 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

Two witnesses reported observing the aircraft approach and land with the landing gear retracted. The pilot acknowledged that he forgot to extend the landing gear. He reported that the landing gear warning horn sounded when he retarded engine power in the landing flare but that there was insufficient time to increase power before the propellers contacted the runway.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the failure of the pilot-in-command to follow the pre-landing checklist which resulted in his failure to extend the landing gear and an inadvertent wheels-up landing.

Findings

Occurrence #1: WHEELS UP LANDING Phase of Operation: LANDING

Findings

- 1. (C) PROCEDURES/DIRECTIVES NOT FOLLOWED PILOT IN COMMAND
- 2. (C) GEAR EXTENSION NOT PERFORMED PILOT IN COMMAND
- 3. WHEELS UP LANDING INADVERTENT PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

On November 17, 1995, at 1230 hours Pacific standard time, a Beech D-50, N100AV, landed gear up on runway 19 at Westover Field Amador County Airport, Jackson, California. The aircraft was destroyed by fire after coming to rest; however, the pilot and one passenger were uninjured. The flight originated at the pilot's private airstrip at Herald, California, at 1200 and no flight plan was filed. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the personal flight.

Inspectors from the FAA Sacramento Flight Standards District Office interviewed two witnesses who observed the aircraft approach and land with the landing gear retracted. Propeller strike marks were identified on the runway leading to scrape marks where the aircraft departed the runway. The aircraft came to rest approximately at midfield on the 3,400-footlong runway, 80 feet left (east) of the runway and heading north.

The pilot subsequently acknowledged to the FAA personnel that he failed to extend the landing gear for landing. He reported that he carried substantial engine power on the landing approach until on short final. When he retarded the throttles the landing gear warning horn sounded but there wasn't time to bring the power back up before the propellers contacted the runway. The pilot then retarded power again and completed the landing gear-up.

Pilot Information

1 not information			
Certificate:	Private	Age:	32,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medicalno waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	December 15, 1993
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	308 hours (Total, all aircraft), 78 hours (Total, this make and model), 139 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Page 2 of 5 LAX96LA047

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BEECH	Registration:	N100AV
Model/Series:	D-50 D-50	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	DH-107
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	February 15, 1995 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	6300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	100 Hrs	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3500 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	GO-480
Registered Owner:	KENT W. RAVERTY	Rated Power:	295 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:	SAC ,217 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	34 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	11:49 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	267°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 20000 ft AGL	Visibility	7 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	4 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	200°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	22°C / 13°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipita	ation	
Departure Point:	HERALD , CA	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	(070)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	12:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Page 3 of 5 LAX96LA047

Airport Information

Airport:	WESTOVER FIELD, AMADOR CO 070	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1694 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	19	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3400 ft / 60 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	On-ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	38.350116,-120.769172(est)

Page 4 of 5 LAX96LA047

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Parker, Richard	
Additional Participating Persons:	RICHARD D NIELSON; SACRAMENTO , CA	
Original Publish Date:	April 18, 1996	
Last Revision Date:		
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>	
Note:		
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=29337	

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.

Page 5 of 5 LAX96LA047