



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	LOS ALAMITOS, California	Accident Number:	LAX97LA024
Date & Time:	October 20, 1996, 13:20 Local	Registration:	N65844
Aircraft:	Schweizer 2-33-A	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

During the final approach, the student pilot was having difficulty controlling the glider and was not aligned with the runway. The glider got low and slow before the instructor pilot took over the controls. The pilot landed short of the runway and the aircraft collided with an object protruding from the ground that damaged the spar.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The student pilot's failure to properly handle the glider, and the instructor pilot's inadequate supervision.

Findings

Occurrence #1: UNDERSHOOT
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - FINAL APPROACH

Findings

1. (C) AIRCRAFT HANDLING - INADEQUATE - DUAL STUDENT
2. (C) SUPERVISION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND(CFI)

Occurrence #2: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

3. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - HIGH OBSTRUCTION(S)

Factual Information

On October 20, 1996, at 1320 hours Pacific daylight time, a Schweizer 2-33-A glider, N65844, collided with the terrain short of dirt runway 22R at the Armed Forces Reserve Center located in Los Alamitos, California. The aircraft was substantially damaged and the certified instructor pilot and his dual student were not injured. The flight departed at 1300 for a local instructional flight. Visual meteorological conditions existed at the time with the winds reported from 220 degrees at 13 knots.

According to the pilot, the student let the glider get out of position during the final approach for landing. The student was having a hard time coordinating the controls and the aircraft became low and slow. The instructor took over and landed the glider in a field short of the runway. The left wing collided with a pipe protruding from the ground and bent the spar. The instructor stated there were no mechanical problems with the glider prior to the accident.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Flight instructor	Age:	35, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Rear
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Balloon; Glider	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Glider	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	None Unknown	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	411 hours (Total, all aircraft), 180 hours (Total, this make and model), 319 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 14 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Schweizer	Registration:	N65844
Model/Series:	2-33-A 2-33-A	Aircraft Category:	Glider
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Utility	Serial Number:	
Landing Gear Type:	Skid	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1040 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	Unknown
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	
Registered Owner:	CIVIL AIR PATROL	Rated Power:	
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	15 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	13 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	220°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	26°C / 7°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	(SLI)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	13:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Military operation area

Airport Information

Airport:	LOS ALAMITOS RESERVE CENT SLI	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Airport Elevation:	35 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	22R	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	1300 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	33.790527,-118.06015(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Mucho, R
Additional Participating Persons:	RON FRANK; LONG BEACH , CA
Original Publish Date:	February 18, 1997
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=29670

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