



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	TOUGHKENAMON, Pennsylvania	Accident Number:	NYC85LA144
Date & Time:	June 2, 1985, 08:45 Local	Registration:	N5288G
Aircraft:	CESSNA 305A	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE ACFT GROUND LOOPED DURING A LANDING ROLL ON A SOD RWY. THE PLT STATED THAT DURING THE LANDING ROLL, IT FELT AS IF THE RIGHT MAIN GEAR CONTACTED A KNOLL OF GRASS RESULTING IN THE ACFT GROUND LOOPING TO THE RIGHT.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

1. (C) TERRAIN CONDITION - HIDDEN OBSTRUCTION(S)

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

2. (C) GROUND LOOP/SWERVE - UNCONTROLLED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Flight instructor	Age:	53,Female
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea	Seat Occupied:	Front
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 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	October 23, 1984
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	55563 hours (Total, all aircraft), 108 hours (Total, this make and model), 90 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 82 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N5288G
Model/Series:	305A 305A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	21515
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	May 30, 1985 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2100 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	3 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	6371 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	O-470-11B
Registered Owner:	JANET I. CHURCHILL	Rated Power:	635 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	18 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	226°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	21°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	MIDDLETOWN , DE	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	TOUGHKENAMON , PA	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	08:20 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	NEW GARDEN	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

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:	39.829822,-75.750473(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Taylor, Vernon

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date:

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: [Class](#)

Note:

Investigation Docket: <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=35889>

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](#).