



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: OSSIPEE, New Hampshire Accident Number: NYC91LA141

Date & Time: May 25, 1991, 09:52 Local Registration: N6342N

Aircraft: CHAMPION 7KCAB Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 1 Minor

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

THE PILOT WAS DOING AEROBATIC MANEUVERS WHEN THE UP ELEVATOR CABLE BROKE. HE RETURNED TO THE AIRPORT AND SET UP FOR A LANDING USING ELEVATOR TRIM. ON FINAL AS HE REDUCED POWER, HE ENCOUNTERED A DOWNDRAFT AND WAS UNABLE TO PREVENT THE AIRPLANE FROM HITTING THE GROUND NOSE FIRST. POST CRASH EXAMINATION BY THE FAA DISCLOSED THE AIRPLANE HAD RECEIVED AN ANNUAL INSPECTION 12 HOURS PRIOR TO THE ACCIDENT. THEY FAA STATED THEY BELIEVED THE CABLES WERE WORN BEYOND WHAT COULD BE EXPECTED FROM 12 HOURS OF OPERATION.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: AN INADEQUATE ANNUAL INSPECTION BY THE MECHANIC WHICH RESULTED IN THE INFLIGHT FAILURE OF THE ELEVATOR CONTROL CABLE.

Findings

Occurrence #1: AIRFRAME/COMPONENT/SYSTEM FAILURE/MALFUNCTION

Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (C) FLT CONTROL SYST, ELEVATOR CONTROL CABLE/ROD - FAILURE, TOTAL

(C) MAINTENANCE, ANNUAL INSPECTION - INADEQUATE - OTHER MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - FINAL APPROACH

Findings

3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - DOWNDRAFT

4. (C) ELEVATOR - NOT POSSIBLE - PILOT IN COMMAND

5. (C) REMEDIAL ACTION - NOT POSSIBLE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: HARD LANDING

Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

6. TERRAIN CONDITION - GRASS

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Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	69,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medicalw/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	July 31, 1990
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	10000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1500 hours (Total, this make and model), 30 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CHAMPION	Registration:	N6342N
Model/Series:	7KCAB 7KCAB	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Aerobatic	Serial Number:	212
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	April 28, 1991 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1650 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	12 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	478 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	IO-320-E2A
Registered Owner:	RICHARD L. PASCOE	Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
Operator:	RICHARD L. PASCOE	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	
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Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
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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 / 20 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	330°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipita	ation	
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	09:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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Airport Information

Airport:	NONE NONE	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	460 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	33	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4000 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Precautionary landing

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hancock, Robert	
Additional Participating Persons:	TOM SCHULTZ; PORTLAND , ME	
Original Publish Date:	May 5, 1993	
Last Revision Date:		
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>	
Note:		
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=36931	

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.

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