



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	CHARLESTON, West Virginia	Accident Number:	NYC97LA146
Date & Time:	June 21, 1997, 07:00 Local	Registration:	N47282
Aircraft:	Taylorcraft DCO-65	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot departed on a local personal flight and returned for landing. During the approach, the pilot performed a left slip to accelerate the descent and align with the runway. The airplane touched down with sideward movement and the left wingtip struck the ground. The airplane pulled to the left, and the pilot corrected with an application of right rudder. The airplane departed the right side of the runway and collided with a hangar.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the pilot's inadequate compensation for unfavorable (variable) wind conditions, and his failure to maintain directional control of the airplane. The wind condition and proximity of a hangar were related factors.

Findings

Occurrence #1: DRAGGED WING, ROTOR, POD, FLOAT OR TAIL/SKID
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - UNFAVORABLE WIND
2. (C) COMPENSATION FOR WIND CONDITIONS - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

3. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

4. GROUND LOOP/SWERVE

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

5. (F) OBJECT - HANGAR/AIRPORT BUILDING

Factual Information

On June 21, 1997, at 0700 eastern daylight time, a Taylorcraft DCO-65, N47282, was substantially damaged during landing at the Mallory Airport (WV12), Charleston, West Virginia. The certificated private pilot was not injured. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the personal flight that originated at WV12, about 0650. No flight plan was filed for the flight conducted under 14 CFR Part 91.

In a written statement, the pilot reported:

"I was approaching to land at Mallory Airport over Rock Lake. I slipped to the left to [lose] altitude and get on the center line. The aircraft touched down while still moving sideways and touched the left wing tip on the ground. This pulled the aircraft to the left and I applied right rudder to correct. The aircraft then left the runway to the right and impacted a half-built hanger."

The weather reported at Charleston International Airport, 7 miles east of WV12, was calm wind and clear sky above some ground fog with 5 miles visibility.

In a written statement, the pilot reported there were no mechanical deficiencies with the airplane.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	38,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
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 Medical-w/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 22, 1997
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	210 hours (Total, all aircraft), 160 hours (Total, this make and model), 160 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Taylorcraft	Registration:	N47282
Model/Series:	DCO-65 DCO-65	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	L-5182
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	May 21, 1997 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	10 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	A&C75
Registered Owner:	FRED S. MASON	Rated Power:	75 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:	CRW ,982 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	7 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	06:56 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	90°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	5 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	0°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	17°C / 17°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	N/A - None - Fog		
Departure Point:	(WV12)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	06:50 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	MALLORY WV12	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	880 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	33	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2000 ft / 24 ft	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:	38.389297,-81.599624(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Rayner, Brian
Additional Participating Persons:	THOMAS E FYE; CHARLESTON , WV
Original Publish Date:	June 26, 1998
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=39403

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