



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: PROVO, Utah Incident Number: SEA91IA159

Date & Time: July 5, 1991, 07:50 Local Registration: N5353A

Aircraft: GALAXY GLX-7 Aircraft Damage: Minor

Defining Event: 4 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

THE PILOT OF THE GALAXY GLX07 HOT AIR BALLOON IMPACTED A FENCE AFTER HE MADE A PRECAUTIONARY LANDING IN AN OPEN FIELD. THE PILOT HAD BEEN TEMPORARILY DISTRACTED BY THE NEED TO RESECURE THE DEFLATION LINE TO THE BALLOON STRUCTURE, AND WHEN HE LOOKED UP HE SAW POWER LINES THAT HE WAS UNSURE THAT HE WOULD CLEAR. HE THEREFORE CHOSE TO EXECUTE THE PRESCAUTIONARY LANDING.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this incident to be: THE PILOT'S DIVERTED ATTENTION. FACOTRS INCLUDE ON GROUND CONTACT WITH A FENCE.

Findings

Occurrence #1: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

1. (F) OBJECT - FENCE

2. (C) DIVERTED ATTENTION - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport	Age:	47,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Balloon; Glider; Helicopter	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medicalw/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	January 4, 1990
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	8000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 50 hours (Total, this make and model), 6800 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	GALAXY	Registration:	N5353A
Model/Series:	GLX-7 GLX-7	Aircraft Category:	Balloon
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	06
Landing Gear Type:		Seats:	
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1680 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	0 Hrs	Engines:	0 Unknown
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	
Registered Owner:	CHEMELLO, DOMINIC J.	Rated Power:	
Operator:	CHEMELLO, DOMINIC J.	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
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:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	0°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	21°C / -18°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipita	ation	
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	06:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Minor
Passenger Injuries:	3 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	4 None	Latitude, Longitude:	40.309192,-111.710403(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Anderson, Orrin

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date: May 5, 1993

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: Class

Note:

Investigation Docket: https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=41347

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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