

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	ENGLISH BAY, Alaska		Accident Number:	ANC99LA006
Date & Time:	October 16, 1998, 15:5	5 Local	Registration:	N6522T
Aircraft:	Britten-Norman	BN-2A	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Injuries: 8 None			
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air taxi & commuter - Non-scheduled			

Analysis

The airplane was departing runway 19, with winds from 240 degrees magnetic at 20 knots gusting to 25 knots, when it collided with an airplane parked across the east edge of the runway. No ramp area exists at the airport, requiring airplanes to park on the runway edge of the 1,850 feet long by 50 feet wide airstrip. The pilots of both airplanes told the NTSB investigator-in-charge that there was room to taxi past the parked airplane.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot-in-command's inadequate compensation for the crosswind conditions, and failure to maintain adequate clearance from the parked airplane. Factors associated with this accident were the gusty crosswinds, and the congested takeoff area due to no parking ramp.

Findings

Occurrence #1: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

Findings

(F) WEATHER CONDITION - CROSSWIND
(F) WEATHER CONDITION - GUSTS
(C) COMPENSATION FOR WIND CONDITIONS - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

Findings

4. (F) AIRPORT FACILITIES, RUNWAY/LANDING AREA CONDITION - CONGESTED/CONFINED AREA

5. (C) CLEARANCE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

On October 16, 1998, at 1555 Alaska daylight time, a Britten-Norman BN-2A airplane, N6522T, sustained substantial damage when it collided with a parked airplane during takeoff from the English Bay Airport, English Bay, Alaska. The airline transport pilot and the seven passengers were not injured. The airplane was operated by C and L, Inc., doing business as Homer Air Service, of Homer, Alaska. The flight was conducted under 14 CFR Part 135 as an on demand air taxi flight from English Bay to Homer. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed at the time of the accident, and a company VFR flight plan was filed.

The company chief pilot told the NTSB investigator-in-charge during a telephone interview on October 17, that there was a right crosswind, estimated to be 20 knots gusting to 25 knots. During the takeoff roll from gravel runway 19, which measures 1,850 feet long by 50 feet wide, the airplane drifted left and struck a Cessna 185 parked on the runway's east edge.

The pilot stated in his NTSB Pilot / Operator report that during his takeoff, a gust of wind hit the airplane, it veered left, and contacted the Cessna 185. The pilot indicated that the Cessna 185 was parked perpendicular to, and across, part of the runway because there is no parking ramp area. The pilot said that there was sufficient room for the BN-2 to get by.

The pilot of the Cessna 185 described winds of 15 to 20 knots from 45 degrees to the right. She said that there was enough room for the BN-2 to taxi past with 10 feet to spare. She stated that she heard full power from the BN-2 prior to the collision.

Phot information			
Certificate:	Airline transport	Age:	59,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
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 Medicalw/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	April 7, 1998
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	7903 hours (Total, all aircraft), 61 hours (Total, this make and model), 6852 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 200 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Pilot Information

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Britten-Norman	Registration:	N6522T
Model/Series:	BN-2A BN-2A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	136
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	8
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	September 12, 1998 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	6200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	50 Hrs	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	13477 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	0-540-E4C5
Registered Owner:	C AND L INC.	Rated Power:	260 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand air taxi (135)
Operator Does Business As:	HOMER AIR SERVICE	Operator Designator Code:	ENEA

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:	Unknown	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 1500 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	20 knots / 25 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	240°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	4°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	, AK (KEB)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Company VFR
Destination:	HOMER , AK (HOM)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	15:55 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	ENGLISH BAY KEB	Runway Surface Type:	Gravel
Airport Elevation:	27 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Wet
Runway Used:	19	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	1850 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	7 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	8 None	Latitude, Longitude:	59.39965,-151.319808(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Thomas, Matthew		
Additional Participating Persons:	THOMAS NOBLE (FAA FSDO); ANCHORAGE , AK		
Original Publish Date:	February 16, 2001		
Last Revision Date:			
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>		
Note:			
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=45239		

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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 <u>here</u>.