

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: JACKSONVILLE, Florida Accident Number: ATL99LA057

Date & Time: March 20, 1999, 20:00 Local Registration: N3621Q

Aircraft: Beech 23 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Instructional

Analysis

The solo cross-country flight was planned with a refueling stop in Jacksonville. The student pilot reported that the departure runway surface at the departure airport was rough and uneven. Upon arriving in the Jacksonville area, the student pilot was cleared for an approach to and a landing on runway 07. The student pilot stated that during the first landing he heard a cracking or popping sound. The student pilot described the touchdown as normal. At this point he elected to go-around for another approach and landing. The pilot was cleared for another landing on runway 07, and as soon as the airplane touched down on the runway surface, it veered to the right. The airplane rotated 180 degrees in the center of the runway. The post-accident examination of the airplane disclosed that the nose gear attach point had failed. The visual examination of the fracture surface revealed typical overload deformation. Prior to this occurrence, no mechanical problems with the airplane were reported by the pilot. Reportedly, during the wreckage examination, a small amount of corrosion was also discovered on the nose gear attach point.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE OVERLOAD FAILURE OF THE LANDING GEAR ATTACH POINTS DURING TAKEOFF FROM A TURF AIRSTRIP. FACTORS ARE ROUGH AND UNEVEN TERRAIN.

Findings

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

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

Findings

1. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - ROUGH/UNEVEN

2. (C) LANDING GEAR, NOSE GEAR ATTACH POINT - OVERLOAD

3. LANDING GEAR, NOSE GEAR ATTACH POINT - CORRODED

4. (C) REASON FOR OCCURRENCE UNDETERMINED

Occurrence #2: GEAR COLLAPSED Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

5. GROUND LOOP/SWERVE

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

6. OBJECT - TREE(S)

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Factual Information

On March 20, 1999, at 2000 eastern standard time, a Beech 23, N3621Q, ground looped during a full stop landing at the Jacksonville International Airport in Jacksonville, Florida. The instructional flight was operated by the student pilot under the provisions of Title 14 CFR Part 91 with no flight plan filed. Visual weather conditions prevailed at the time of the accident. The airplane sustained substantial damage and the student pilot was not injured. The flight departed Cumming, Georgia, at 1630.

According to the student pilot, the solo-cross country flight was planned with a refueling stop in Jacksonville. The student pilot reported that the departure runway surface at Cumming Airport was rough and uneven. Upon arriving in the Jacksonville area, the student pilot was cleared for an approach to and a landing on runway 07. The student pilot stated that during the first landing he heard a cracking or popping sound. The student pilot described the touchdown as normal. At this point he elected to go-around for another approach and landing. The pilot was cleared for another landing on runway 07, and as soon as the airplane touched down on the runway surface, it veered to the right. The airplane rotated 180 degrees in the center of the runway.

The post-accident examination of the airplane disclosed that the nose gear attach point had failed. The visual examination of the fracture surface revealed typical overload deformation. Prior to this occurrence, no mechanical problems with the airplane were reported by the pilot. Reportedly, during the wreckage examination, a small amount of corrosion was also discovered on the nose gear attach point.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	38,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Left
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 2 Valid Medical-no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	95 hours (Total, all aircraft), 90 hours (Total, this make and model), 5 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 40 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Beech	Registration:	N3621Q
Model/Series:	23 23	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Utility	Serial Number:	MB-239
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	20 Hrs	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3000 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-320A4K
Registered Owner:	PATRICIA PEREIRA	Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
Operator:	CAMILO PEREIRA	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:	Night/dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	JAX ,30 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	19:55 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	6 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	150°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	19°C / 16°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipita	ation	
Departure Point:	CUMMING , GA (84A)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	(JIA)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	16:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class A

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Airport Information

Airport:	JACKSONVILLE INTERNATIONA JAX	Runway Surface Type:	Concrete
Airport Elevation:	30 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry;Rough
Runway Used:	7	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	10000 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

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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:	

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Powell, Phillip

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date: August 21, 2001

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: Class

Note:

Investigation Docket: https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=45930

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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