



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: SYLVANIA, Wisconsin Accident Number: CHI99LA220

Date & Time: July 8, 1999, 19:15 Local Registration: N3209F

Aircraft: Let BLANIK L-13 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Instructional

Analysis

The Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) reported that she was demonstrating a landing approach in the glider without the use of dive-brakes. The CFI stated that that the glider landed long, and during the landing roll, it became evident that the aircraft would not stop before the end of the runway. The CFI reported that in order to avoid overrunning into a corn field at the end of the runway, she deployed the dive-brakes and turned the aircraft to the right towards an open flat field. The aircraft impacted between two trees on the right side of the runway. Inspection of the wreckage revealed no pre-accident flight control anomalies.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the misjudged planned approach and the evasive maneuver attempted by the pilot-in-command. A factor was the presence of trees.

Findings

Occurrence #1: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

1. (C) PLANNED APPROACH - MISJUDGED - PILOT IN COMMAND

2. (C) EVASIVE MANEUVER - ATTEMPTED - PILOT IN COMMAND

3. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)

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Factual Information

On July 8, 1999, at 1915 central daylight time, a LET Blanik L-13, N3209F, piloted by a commercial flight instructor, received substantial damage during an on-ground collision with two trees while landing on Runway 26R (2,360 feet by 120 feet, dry/turf) at the Sylvania Airport, Sylvania, Wisconsin. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed at the time of the accident. The local instructional flight was operating under the provisions of 14 CFR Part 91 and was not on a flight plan. The Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) and dual student reported no injuries. The flight departed the Sylvania Airport at 1845 and was landing at the time of the accident.

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Inspection of the wreckage revealed no pre-accident flight control anomalies.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	47,Female
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Glider	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medicalw/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	July 21, 1998
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1063 hours (Total, all aircraft), 22 hours (Total, this make and model), 1023 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 76 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 34 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Let	Registration:	N3209F
Model/Series:	BLANIK L-13 BLANIK L-1	Aircraft Category:	Glider
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Aerobatic	Serial Number:	26526
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	August 26, 1998 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1100 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	61 Hrs	Engines:	Unknown
Airframe Total Time:	1206 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	
Registered Owner:	ENGEL CHARLES L	Rated Power:	
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:	SYLVANIA SOARING	Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	RAC ,674 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	7 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	18:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	62°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	13 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	210°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	28°C / 15°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipita	ation	
Departure Point:	(C89)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	18:45 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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Airport Information

Airport:	SYLVANIA AIRPORT C89	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	785 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	26	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2360 ft / 120 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	42.699626,-87.889556(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Fox, Andrew

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date: June 22, 2000

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: Class

Note:

Investigation Docket: https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=46759

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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