

# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location:	HAYTI, Missouri		Accident Number:	CHI00LA094
Date & Time:	March 21, 2000, 15	:00 Local	Registration:	N4859Q
Aircraft:	Cessna	A188B	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:			Injuries:	1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General avi	ation		

### Analysis

The airplane had just received an annual inspection and a maintenance test flight was being performed. The pilot reported that during the flight the aileron control was ineffective. He reported that the '...right aileron appeared to be disconnected, moving up and down, [with] no response.' The pilot said that he was in a right turn and was unable to bring up the right wing. He said that he was losing altitude and decided to land the airplane on '... soft plowed ground...' The pilot said that, during the landing, the right wing struck the ground. During a postaccident examination of the aircraft, the right aileron pushrod end bearing bolt was found installed in the bellcrank, but the bolt did not pass through the rod end bearing. According to maintenance records, the aileron pushrod end bearings were replaced during the annual inspection due to excessive play. No other anomalies were found with respect to the aircraft or aircraft systems.

#### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the failure of maintenance personnel to properly install and connect the aileron control rod. Factors were the inadequate annual inspection by maintenance personnel and the aileron control not possible by the pilot.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING Findings

1. (C) FLT CONTROL SYST, AILERON CONTROL CABLE/ROD - NOT CONNECTED

2. (C) MAINTENANCE, INSTALLATION - IMPROPER - OTHER MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

3. (F) MAINTENANCE, ANNUAL INSPECTION - INADEQUATE - OTHER MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

4. (F) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT POSSIBLE - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY DESCENT/LANDING

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY LANDING

#### **Factual Information**

On March 21, 2000, at 1500 central standard time, a Cessna A188B, N4859Q, sustained substantial damage when it impacted the terrain during a forced landing following a loss of aileron control during flight. The 14 CFR Part 91 maintenance flight was operating in visual meteorological conditions and was not on a flight plan. The commercial rated pilot received serious injuries. The flight originated from the Mid Continent Airport, Hayti, Missouri about 1450 for a local flight.

The airplane had just received an annual inspection and a maintenance test flight was being performed. The pilot reported, in a written statement, that during the flight the aileron control was ineffective. He reported that the "...right aileron appeared to be disconnected, moving up and down, [with] no response." The pilot said that he was in a right turn and was unable to bring up the right wing. He said that he was losing altitude and decided to land the airplane on "... soft plowed ground..." The pilot said that, during the landing, the right wing struck the ground.

During a postaccident examination of the aircraft, the right aileron pushrod end bearing bolt was found installed in the bellcrank, but the bolt did not pass through the rod end bearing. According to maintenance records, the aileron pushrod end bearings were replaced during the annual inspection due to excessive play. No other anomalies were found with respect to the aircraft or aircraft systems.

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	77,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Center
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 9, 1999
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	13362 hours (Total, all aircraft), 300 hours (Total, this make and model), 13362 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

#### **Pilot Information**

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N4859Q
Model/Series:	A188B A188B	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Restricted (Special)	Serial Number:	188-02595
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	March 21, 2000 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	0 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	5138 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520D
Registered Owner:	MID CONTINENT AIRCRAFT CORP.	Rated Power:	300 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

### Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Not reported
Observation Facility, Elevation:	HKA ,255 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	18 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	14:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	198°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	60°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	14°C / 9°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	(M28)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	14:50 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

### **Airport Information**

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:		<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced landing

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	36.230449,-89.739418(est)

#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Brannen, John	
Additional Participating Persons:	JOEL PETTUS; ST. ANN , MO	
Original Publish Date:	March 2, 2001	
Last Revision Date:		
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>	
Note:		
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=48844	

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 <u>here</u>.