



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	TALKEETNA, Alaska	Accident Number:	ANC87LA141
Date & Time:	September 6, 1987, 14:30 Local	Registration:	N8CK
Aircraft:	CHAMPION 7GCBC	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE PILOT ATTEMPTED TO TAKE OFF FROM AN UNIMPROVED SITE WHILE THE INSIDE OF THE AIRPLANE'S WINDOWS WERE PARTIALLY OBSCURED WITH CONDENSATION. THE AIRPLANE STRUCK A ROCK WITH ITS MAIN GEAR DURING THE TAKE OFF ROLL AND BECAME PREMATURELY AIRBORNE. THE PILOT SUBSEQUENTLY WAS UNABLE TO GAIN SUFFICIENT FLYING SPEED AND CRASHED.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

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

Findings

1. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - ROUGH/UNEVEN
 2. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
 3. (C) WINDOW, FLIGHT COMPARTMENT WINDOW/WINDSHIELD - DIRTY (FOGGY)
 4. (C) VISUAL LOOKOUT - NOT POSSIBLE - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

5. (C) LIFT-OFF - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	38, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Unknown Expired	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	826 hours (Total, all aircraft), 698 hours (Total, this make and model), 752 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 29 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CHAMPION	Registration:	N8CK
Model/Series:	7GCBC 7GCBC	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Aerobatic; Normal; Utility	Serial Number:	104
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	June 1, 1987 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1650 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	33 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2026 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-A2B
Registered Owner:	MARK D. HARTMAN	Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
Operator:	MARK D. HARTMAN	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:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown	Visibility	5 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 4000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	0°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	6°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	Light - None - Drizzle		
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	TALKEETNA , AK (TKA)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	00:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Airport Elevation:	0 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry;Snow
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	0 ft / 0 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

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:	62.450447,-149.790069(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): La belle, James

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date: May 27, 1988

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: [Class](#)

Note:

Investigation Docket: <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=4905>

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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 [here](#).