



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: HUNTER CREEK, Alaska Accident Number: ANC88LA054

Date & Time: May 6, 1988, 10:00 Local Registration: N22901

Aircraft: CESSNA 185F Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 1 Minor, 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 135: Air taxi & commuter - Non-scheduled

Analysis

AFTER LANDING AT A MINING CAMP AIRSTRIP, THE RIGHT LANDING GEAR FAILED CAUSING THE AIRCRAFT TO GROUND LOOP. EXAMINATION OF THE BROKEN GEAR PART REVEALED THE ORIGINAL FRACTURE TO BE A FATIGUE FRACTURE. THE INITIAL CRACK IN THE GEAR LEG RAN PARALLEL TO THE GEAR BOLT HOLE. THE ACFT WAS INSPECTED 80 HRS BEFORE THE FAILURE.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: MAIN GEAR COLLAPSED Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

- 1. (C) LANDING GEAR, AXLE FAILURE, TOTAL
- 2. (C) LANDING GEAR, AXLE FATIGUE
- 3. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION LOOSE GRAVEL/SANDY
- 4. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION ROUGH/UNEVEN
- 5. GROUND LOOP/SWERVE UNCONTROLLED
- 6. (C) MAINTENANCE, 100-HOUR INSPECTION INADEQUATE COMPANY MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

Page 2 of 6 ANC88LA054

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Commercial	Age:	45,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 Medicalno waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 5, 1987
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	17400 hours (Total, all aircraft), 4200 hours (Total, this make and model), 17245 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 155 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 90 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Page 3 of 6 ANC88LA054

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N22901
Model/Series:	185F 185F	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	18503077
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel; Ski/wheel	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	August 3, 1987 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3350 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	80 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3800 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	10-520
Registered Owner:	BILL LENTSCH	Rated Power:	300 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand air taxi (135)
Operator Does Business As:	TAMARACK AIR, LTD	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	50 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 5000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	0°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	10°C / -1°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipit	ation	
Departure Point:	FAIRBANKS , AK	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	09:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Page 4 of 6 ANC88LA054

Airport Information

Airport:	MINING CAMP AIRSTRIP	Runway Surface Type:	Gravel
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	23	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	1000 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor, 1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	

Page 5 of 6 ANC88LA054

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Michelangelo, James	
Additional Participating Persons:	ROBERT SHEPHERD; FAIRBANKS , AK	
Original Publish Date:	April 25, 1989	
Last Revision Date:		
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>	
Note:		
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=5004	

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.

Page 6 of 6 ANC88LA054