

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: San Diego, California Accident Number: LAX06LA166

Date & Time: May 8, 2006, 12:30 Local Registration: N5M

Aircraft: McKenzie Lancair IV-P Turbine Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The airplane veered off the runway after the left main gear collapsed on landing. The pilot was cleared to land on runway 28L. He lowered the landing gear in preparation for landing, and received an indication of three green lights confirming that the gear was down and locked. At this point, an electrical power failure occurred, and he initiated a go-around. He turned the emergency battery on, and this restored power to the radio and several critical systems. The gear lights indicated that only the nose and right main were now down and locked. He asked the tower controller to confirm the gear position. The tower said it appeared to be down, and cleared the pilot to land on runway 28R. Upon touchdown, the left main gear collapsed. The pilot stated that he should have tried to pump the gear in an attempt to get it in the locked position. No determination was made regarding the reason for the collapse of the left main landing gear.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The collapse of the left main gear for undetermined reasons. A factor was the pilot's inadequate remedial action in response to the left main gear not locked warning light by not attempting to manually extend the gear to ensure it was fully down and locked.

Findings

Occurrence #1: GEAR COLLAPSED

Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

- 1. (C) LANDING GEAR, MAIN GEAR COLLAPSED
- 2. (F) REMEDIAL ACTION INADEQUATE PILOT IN COMMAND
 3. (F) GEAR DOWN AND LOCKED NOT ATTAINED PILOT IN COMMAND

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Factual Information

On May 8, 2006, about 1230 Pacific daylight time, a McKenzie Lancair experimental IV-P Turbine, N5M, veered off the runway after the left main gear collapsed on landing at Montgomery Field, San Diego, California. The pilot/owner was operating the airplane under the provisions of 14 CFR Part 91. The private pilot was not injured; the airplane sustained substantial damage. The cross-country personal flight departed Phoenix Deer Valley, Phoenix, Arizona, about 1130, with a planned destination of Montgomery Field. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and no flight plan had been filed.

The pilot submitted a written report. He was cleared to land on runway 28L at Montgomery Field. He lowered the landing gear in preparation for landing, and received an indication of three green lights confirming that the gear was down and locked. At this point, an electrical power failure occurred, and he initiated a go-around. He turned the emergency battery on, and this restored power to the radio. The gear lights indicated that only two were down and locked. He asked the tower controller to confirm the gear position. The tower said it appeared to be down, and cleared the pilot to land on runway 28R. Upon touchdown the left main gear collapsed. The pilot stated that he should have tried to pump the gear in an attempt to get it in the locked position.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	58,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	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 3	Last FAA Medical Exam:	December 1, 2006
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1700 hours (Total, all aircraft), 125 hours (Total, this make and model)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	McKenzie	Registration:	N5M
Model/Series:	Lancair IV-P Turbine	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	LIV-490
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	May 1, 2005 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Turbo prop
Airframe Total Time:	270 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Walter
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	
Registered Owner:	William A. Stern	Rated Power:	
Operator:	William A. Stern	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	MYF,446 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	12:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	1800 ft AGL	Visibility	7 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	240°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.94 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	20°C / 13°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Phoenix, AZ (KDVT)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	San Diego, CA (KMYF)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	11:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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Airport Information

Airport:	Montgomery Field KMYF	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	427 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	28R	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4577 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

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:	32.815555,-117.14389

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Plagens, Howard
Additional Participating Persons:	Ty Park; Federal Aviation Administration ; San Diego, CA
Original Publish Date:	July 25, 2007
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=63654

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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.

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