

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Bagdad, Arizona Accident Number: LAX08CA147

Date & Time: May 17, 2008, 14:30 Local Registration: N4026T

Aircraft: Beech B-23 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Loss of control in flight **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The pilot said he had just purchased the airplane in California and was returning to his home in Texas. He was in the landing flare when a gust of wind blew the airplane off the side of the runway. He attempted to go around, but the landing gear impacted some rocks on the left side of the runway. The outboard 10 feet of the right wing was wrinkled and compressed aft, and the bottom of the empennage was badly wrinkled and compromised. The airplane came to rest approximately 185 feet from the runway. The reported winds at Prescott, Arizona, located 37 nautical miles east of the accident airport, were from 350 degrees at 11 knots gusting to 17 knots.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequate compensation for the wind conditions and failure to maintain runway alignment. Contributing factors were the gusty crosswind weather conditions and the rocky terrain adjacent to the runway.

Findings

Environmental issues Crosswind - Contributed to outcome

Environmental issues Gusts - Contributed to outcome

Aircraft Crosswind correction - Incorrect use/operation

Environmental issues (general) - Contributed to outcome

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)
Approach-VFR go-around	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	55,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-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 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	July 1, 2006
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	400 hours (Total, all aircraft), 20 hours (Total, this make and model), 35 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Beech	Registration:	N4026T
Model/Series:	B-23	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	-	Amateur Built:	r
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal; Utility	Serial Number:	M-1132
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2750 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	4368 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, activated, aided in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	0-360-A2G
Registered Owner:	Raymond G. Hale	Rated Power:	180
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

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Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
PRC	Distance from Accident Site:	37 Nautical Miles
14:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	90°
Few / 12000 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
None	Visibility (RVR):	
11 knots / 17 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
350°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
30.17 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	30°C / -3°C
No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Twenty Nine Pal, CA (TNP)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Bagdad, AZ (E51)	Type of Clearance:	None
13:10 Local	Type of Airspace:	
	PRC 14:53 Local Few / 12000 ft AGL None 11 knots / 17 knots 350° 30.17 inches Hg No Obscuration; No Precipital Twenty Nine Pal, CA (TNP) Bagdad, AZ (E51)	PRC Distance from Accident Site: 14:53 Local Direction from Accident Site: Few / 12000 ft AGL Visibility None Visibility (RVR): 11 knots / 17 knots Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual: 350° Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual: 30.17 inches Hg Temperature/Dew Point: No Obscuration; No Precipitation Twenty Nine Pal, CA (TNP) Type of Flight Plan Filed:

Airport Information

Airport:	Bagdad Airport E51	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	4183 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	23	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4575 ft / 60 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	34.604167,-113.172775

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Struhsaker, James
Additional Participating Persons:	Bill Sapp; Federal Aviation Administration; Scottsdale, AZ
Original Publish Date:	May 28, 2008
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=68046

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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