



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: CHATTANOOGA, Tennessee Accident Number: ATL93LA002

Date & Time: October 2, 1992, 17:04 Local Registration: N10BS

Aircraft: BEECH E-55 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** 3 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

#### **Analysis**

THE PILOT WAS ON SHORT FINAL FOR A VISUAL APPROACH TO RUNWAY 15. HE OBSERVED AN APPROACHING OBJECT THAT APPEARED TO BE A RADIO-CONTROLLED MODEL AIRPLANE. HE PULLED UP AND BANKED TO THE LEFT; HOWEVER, THE OBJECT COLLIDED WITH THE UNDERSIDE OF THE RIGHT WING. THE AILERONS WERE MOMENTARILY JAMMED, BUT FORCE ON THE CONTROL YOKE FREED THEM. HE EXECUTED A GO-AROUND AND LANDED THE AIRPLANE ON RUNWAY 20. EXAMINATION OF THE AIRCRAFT REVEALED A HOLE IN THE UNDERSIDE OF THE RIGHT WING, A DESTROYED RIB, AND A NICKED AILERON CABLE. THERE WAS ALSO A BULGE IN THE UPPER WING SKIN. A SMALL SLIVER OF WOOD WAS FOUND INSIDE THE DAMAGED WING SECTION. A SEARCH FOR THE MODEL AIRPLANE AND ITS OPERATORS WAS UNSUCCESSFUL.

### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE FAILURE OF AN UNKNOWN PERSON TO FOLLOW PROPER PROCEDURES/DIRECTIVES BY OPERATING A RADIO-CONTROLLED MODEL PLANE IN AIRPORT TRAFFIC PATTERN AIRSPACE.

#### **Findings**

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - FINAL APPROACH

- Findings
  1. (C) OBJECT OTHER
  2. (C) PROCEDURES/DIRECTIVES NOT FOLLOWED OTHER PERSON

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## **Factual Information**

#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	29,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:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medicalno waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	December 12, 1991
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	4511 hours (Total, all aircraft), 310 hours (Total, this make and model), 2246 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 80 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 25 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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## **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

Aircraft Make:	BEECH	Registration:	N10BS
Model/Series:	E-55 E-55	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	TE-841
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	September 4, 1992 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	5300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	20 Hrs	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1582 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520-C
Registered Owner:	OEHMIG, VON D.	Rated Power:	285 Horsepower
Operator:	OEHMIG, VON D.	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:	CHA ,682 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	16:51 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	150°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Scattered / 5000 ft AGL	Visibility	15 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	4 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	70°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	22°C / 11°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipita	tion	
Departure Point:	SPRINGFIELD , MO (SGF )	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	13:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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## **Airport Information**

Airport:	LOVELL FIELD CHA	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	682 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
Runway Used:	15	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5000 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Straight-in

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	3 None	Latitude, Longitude:	35.00069,-85.229736(est)

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hicks, Ralph	
Additional Participating Persons:	ROBERT D HELMS; NASHVILLE , TN	
Original Publish Date:	June 11, 1993	
Last Revision Date:		
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>	
Note:		
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=8687	

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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