



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: Winnsboro, South Carolina Accident Number: GAA15CA081

**Date & Time:** May 20, 2015, 09:38 Local **Registration:** N50595

Aircraft: CITABRIA 7GCBC Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** Aerodynamic stall/spin **Injuries:** 1 Serious

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

#### **Analysis**

The pilot reported that he decided to go around during the landing due to floating and attempted a steep left turn to avoid power lines. The airplane stalled, impacted the ground, and sustained substantial damage to the wings, the fuselage, and the empennage.

The pilot reported no pre-impact mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airframe or engine that would have precluded normal operation.

#### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's execution of a steep left turn at low altitude during an aborted landing, which resulted in an aerodynamic stall, and a collision with terrain.

#### **Findings**

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

Personnel issues Decision making/judgment - Pilot

Aircraft Airspeed - Not attained/maintained

Aircraft Angle of attack - Not attained/maintained

## **Factual Information**

## **History of Flight**

Landing	Landing area overshoot
Other	Abrupt maneuver
Maneuvering	Aerodynamic stall/spin (Defining event)
Uncontrolled descent	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Commercial; Private	Age:	54
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Center
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Helicopter	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Waiver time limited special	Last FAA Medical Exam:	March 10, 2014
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	April 18, 2014
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 2300 hours (Total, all aircraft), 55 hours (Total, this make and model), 2300 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 40 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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

Aircraft Make:	CITABRIA	Registration:	N50595
Model/Series:	7GCBC NO SERIES	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1979	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Aerobatic; Normal	Serial Number:	1163-79
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	September 11, 2014 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1650 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	55 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3958 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	C91 installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-A2D
Registered Owner:	Gary Langdale	Rated Power:	180 Horsepower
Operator:	Gary Langdale	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	FDW,577 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	5 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	13:35 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	35°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	70°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.97 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	26°C / 16°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Salisbury, NC (KRUQ)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Winnsboro, SC (PVT)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	09:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	34.369674,-81.080299(est)

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hicks, Michael
Additional Participating Persons:	Marshall Bogan; FAA; Columbia, SC
Original Publish Date:	July 29, 2015
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=91208

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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