



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Cahokia, Illinois Accident Number: GAA15CA183

Date & Time: June 30, 2015, 10:30 Local Registration: N3888C

Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Loss of control on ground **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Flight test

Analysis

The pilot reported that during the landing roll the airplane veered to the right and ground looped. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing, left aileron, left horizontal stabilizer, and left elevator.

The pilot reported no preimpact 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 failure to maintain directional control during the landing roll which resulted in a ground loop.

Findings

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	73
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	4-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 20, 2015
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	August 1, 2013
Flight Time:	0 hours (Total, all aircraft), 0 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Passenger Information

Certificate:		Age:	
Airplane Rating(s):		Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	4-point
Instrument Rating(s):		Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:		Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:			

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N3888C
Model/Series:	180	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1954	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal; Provisional (Special)	Serial Number:	31036
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	June 1, 2013 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2000 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL MOTORS
ELT:	C91 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	0-470-A
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	225 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KCPS,413 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	14:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	100°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	250°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.9 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	24°C / 20°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Cahokia, IL (CPS)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	Cahokia, IL (CPS)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	10:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class D

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Airport Information

Airport:	ST LOUIS DOWNTOWN CPS	Runway Surface Type:	Concrete
Airport Elevation:	412 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	12L	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5301 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Stop and go;Traffic pattern

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:	38.571388,-90.159721(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Bigelow, Bradley
Additional Participating Persons:	Louie Bettis; Federal Aviation Administration; St. Loius, MO
Original Publish Date:	August 12, 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=91556

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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