



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: Hailey, Idaho Accident Number: WPR17LA154

Date & Time: July 13, 2017, 20:15 Local Registration: N1796A

Aircraft: Beech D55 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

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

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

### **Analysis**

The pilot reported that the multi-engine airplane's engines were "not synched up" during the landing flare and the airplane began to drift to the right side of the runway. The airplane's airspeed began to decay, and the pilot applied left throttle and pitched the airplane's nose down to correct. The airplane subsequently yawed to the right, the right-wing tip impacted the ground, and the airplane landed sideways, collapsing the landing gear and resulting in substantial damage.

The pilot reported that there were no mechanical problems that would have precluded normal operation and that he should have initiated a go-around upon first noticing the unequal engine power.

### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The pilot's loss of directional control during landing.

## **Findings**

Aircraft Power lever - Incorrect use/operation

Personnel issues Incorrect action selection - Pilot

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Personnel issues Use of equip/system - Pilot

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#### **Factual Information**

#### **History of Flight**

Landing	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)	
Landing	Abnormal runway contact	

On July 13, 2017, about 2015 mountain standard time, a Beech D55 twin-engine airplane, N1796A, was substantially damaged when it was involved in an accident near Hailey, Idaho. The pilot and passenger were not injured. The airplane was operated as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 personal flight.

The pilot reported that, just before he entered the landing flare, he realized that his engines were "not synced up" and the airplane began to drift to the right of the runway. The pilot then realized that the airplane was getting too slow, and he increased the power to the left engine and pitched the airplane's nose down. The airplane yawed to the right and the right wingtip impacted the ground. The airplane hit the ground sideways, and the landing gear collapsed, resulting in substantial damage. The airplane slid off the runway and came to rest upright.

The pilot reported that there were no mechanical problems with the airplane.

#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	24,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	January 1, 2017
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	March 15, 2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 463.4 hours (Total, all aircraft), 9 hours (Total, this make and model)		

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

Aircraft Make:	Beech	Registration:	N1796A
Model/Series:	D55	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1969	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	TE-753
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	March 3, 2017 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	5300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	10 Hrs	Engines:	Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3993 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental Motors Inc.
ELT:	C91 installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520-C
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	285 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Night
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KSUN,5306 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	20:14 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	220°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Few / 10000 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	210°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.14 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	27°C / 6°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Arco, ID (AOC)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	Hailey, ID	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	18:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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## **Airport Information**

Airport:	FRIEDMAN MEMORIAL SUN	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	5319 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
Runway Used:	31	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	7550 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	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:	43.503887,-114.29555(est)

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#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Cornejo, Tealeye
Additional Participating Persons:	Robert Nance; Federal Aviation Administration; Boise, ID
Original Publish Date:	June 10, 2021
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class 3
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=95593

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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