



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	Homestead, Florida	<b>Accident Number:</b>	GAA17CA477
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	July 30, 2017, 16:00 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N304MG
<b>Aircraft:</b>	LET L 23 SUPER BLANIK	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Loss of lift	<b>Injuries:</b>	2 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

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## Analysis

The pilot of a nonpowered glider reported that, while on the downwind for landing, the glider was higher than normal due to lift that was encountered. He added that, while on final approach, the glider encountered a gusting headwind, which reduced the ground speed. The glider was unable to maintain sufficient altitude and touched down short of the intended runway.

The fuselage sustained substantial damage.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical malfunctions or failures with the glider that would have precluded normal operation.

The automated weather observation system located 9 miles east of the accident airport reported that, about 2 minutes before the accident, the wind was from 260° at 14 knots, gusting to 23 knots. 27U was the intended runway.

## Probable Cause and Findings

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

The glider's encounter with atmospheric conditions where the lift was not sufficient to maintain flight, which resulted in the pilot landing short of the intended runway.

## Findings

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**Environmental issues**

(general) - Ability to respond/compensate

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

<b>Approach-VFR pattern final</b>	Other weather encounter
<b>Approach-VFR pattern final</b>	Loss of lift (Defining event)
<b>Landing</b>	Landing area undershoot

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	17, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Front
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	Glider; Helicopter	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	4-point
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 2 Without waivers/limitations	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	February 6, 2013
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	No	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	June 10, 2017
<b>Flight Time:</b>	(Estimated) 131 hours (Total, all aircraft), 20 hours (Total, this make and model), 27 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 58 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 33 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	LET	<b>Registration:</b>	N304MG
<b>Model/Series:</b>	L 23 SUPER BLANIK NO SERIES	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Glider
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	1992	<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	917929
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tandem	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	Unknown	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>		<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	
<b>ELT:</b>		<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	N304MG LLC.	<b>Rated Power:</b>	
<b>Operator:</b>	N304MG LLC.	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KHST,7 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	9 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	19:58 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	98°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Few / 4100 ft AGL	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>		<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	14 knots / 23 knots	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/ None
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	260°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/ N/A
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	29.9 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	32°C / 26°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Homestead, FL (X51 )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Homestead, FL (X51 )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	14:00 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	MIAMI HOMESTEAD GENERAL AVIATI X51	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	7 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	27U	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	2500 ft / 150 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Straight-in

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	2 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	25.502222,-80.541389(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Vanover, Jackie
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Anthony Saavedra ; FAA; Fort Lauderdale, FL
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	March 27, 2018
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=95772">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=95772</a>

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