



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	DAINGERFIELD, TX	Accident Number:	FTW99LA078
Date & Time:	02/02/1999, 1615 CST	Registration:	N44174
Aircraft:	Taylorcraft BC12-D1	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Ferry		

Analysis

The 1946 model airplane impacted trees following a loss of control. The pilot stated that the airplane was in cruise flight at 2,100 feet MSL, when he heard a 'loud pop.' The airplane spiraled to the left about 2.5 times before impacting trees. An aircraft mechanic and FAA inspector found the left wing cross brace wires loose, but could not determine if the loose wires were a pre-impact condition. They also found an aileron bolt installed upside down, 'causing it to rub against the wing.' The pilot could not remember if the aileron movement was restricted; he could only remember using full right rudder in attempt to keep the airplane level. Photographs of the airplane in the tree reveal that the ailerons were positioned for a right turn.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: An undetermined airframe malfunction which rendered the aircraft uncontrollable.

Findings

Occurrence #1: AIRFRAME/COMPONENT/SYSTEM FAILURE/MALFUNCTION
Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

1. (C) AIRFRAME - UNDETERMINED

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

2. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT POSSIBLE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport	Age:	33
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	2980 hours (Total, all aircraft), 18 hours (Total, this make and model), 2480 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 40 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 12 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Taylorcraft	Registration:	N44174
Model/Series:	BC12-D1 BC12-D1	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	KENNY W. HELM	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	A-65-8
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Ferry		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	TXK, 391 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots / , 320°
Temperature:	17° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	SHREVEPORT, LA (SHV)	Destination:	PARIS, TX (PRX)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:			

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	NICOLE LUPINO	Adopted Date:	12/04/2000
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubin@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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