



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

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| Location: | OSHKOSH, WI | Accident Number: | CHI94FA258 |
| Date & Time: | 08/01/1994, 0920 CDT | Registration: | N5296C |
| Aircraft: | KEUTHAN, CHARLES J. BUCCANEER II | Aircraft Damage: | Substantial |
| Defining Event: | | Injuries: | 2 Minor |
| Flight Conducted Under: | Part 91: General Aviation - | | |

HISTORY OF FLIGHT

On August 1, 1994, at 0920 central daylight time, an experimental Charles J. Keuthan Buccaneer II airplane, N5296C, sustained substantial damage during a water touch-and-go landing at the Vette Seaplane Base in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. The commercial pilot and the sole passenger sustained minor injuries. The business flight departed the Wittman Regional Airport, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, about 0900 and was conducted under CFR Part 91 in visual meteorological conditions. The planned destination was the Wittman Regional Airport and no flight plan was filed.

The pilot said she was employed by the operator to give demonstration rides to potential customers. The flight was conducted to demonstrate the capabilities of the experimental amphibious airplane to the passenger. They departed the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) convention at Wittman Regional Airport and flew to the Vette Seaplane Base.

She flew one uneventful touch-and-go landing on the water. Following the second touch-and-go landing, during the initial climb, she felt like the airplane was not climbing at a normal rate. She said all engine instruments were normal and she thought the airplane was going to impact the trees at the edge of the lake. She attempted to turn and perform an emergency landing, but the airplane descended and impacted the water.

A witness to the accident said he saw the airplane takeoff downwind on a heading of about 210 degrees with northerly winds of about 10 knots. He said it was approaching the trees, turned, and then stalled. A wing tip caught in the water and the airplane spun in.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

The pilot held a commercial pilot certificate with a single engine land rating. She did not hold a single engine sea rating.

WRECKAGE AND IMPACT INFORMATION

The NTSB on scene investigation began about 1100. The airplane was located on the shore at the western edge of the Vette Seaplane Base. A witness said he helped to move the airplane up from the water and had extended the landing gear.

The front four feet of the hull was fractured circumferentially in the upward direction. The trailing edge of the right wing was bent downward outboard of the lift struts and the right sponson was twisted. The left forward lift strut was fractured. The engine assembly was twisted on the mount and the fuselage mounted fuel tank was filled with water.

ADDITIONAL DATA/INFORMATION

Following the on scene portion of the investigation, the wreckage was released to the owner.

Pilot Information

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| Certificate: | Commercial; Flight Engineer; Military | Age: | 20, Female |
| Airplane Rating(s): | Single-engine Land | Seat Occupied: | Left |
| Other Aircraft Rating(s): | None | Restraint Used: | Seatbelt, Shoulder harness |
| Instrument Rating(s): | Airplane | Second Pilot Present: | No |
| Instructor Rating(s): | Instrument Airplane; None | Toxicology Performed: | No |
| Medical Certification: | Class 1 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim. | Last FAA Medical Exam: | 12/09/1993 |
| Occupational Pilot: | | Last Flight Review or Equivalent: | |
| Flight Time: | 234 hours (Total, all aircraft), 20 hours (Total, this make and model), 196 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 34 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 14 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft) | | |

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

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|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aircraft Make: | KEUTHAN, CHARLES J. | Registration: | N5296C |
| Model/Series: | BUCCANEER II BUCCANEER | Aircraft Category: | Airplane |
| Year of Manufacture: | | Amateur Built: | Yes |
| Airworthiness Certificate: | Experimental | Serial Number: | B2B-F036 |
| Landing Gear Type: | Retractable - Amphibian; Hull; Tailwheel | Seats: | 2 |
| Date/Type of Last Inspection: | 04/30/1994, Annual | Certified Max Gross Wt.: | 1100 lbs |
| Time Since Last Inspection: | | Engines: | 1 Reciprocating |
| Airframe Total Time: | | Engine Manufacturer: | ROTAX |
| ELT: | Not installed | Engine Model/Series: | 382 |
| Registered Owner: | KUETHAN, CHARLES, J. | Rated Power: | 65 hp |
| Operator: | KEUTHAN, CHARLES J. | Operating Certificate(s) Held: | None |
| Operator Does Business As: | KEUTHAN AIRCRAFT | Operator Designator Code: | |

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

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|----------------------------------|------------------------|---|------------------|
| Conditions at Accident Site: | Visual Conditions | Condition of Light: | Day |
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | OSH, 808 ft msl | Distance from Accident Site: | 5 Nautical Miles |
| Observation Time: | 0900 CDT | Direction from Accident Site: | 330° |
| Lowest Cloud Condition: | Unknown / 1000 ft agl | Visibility | 5 Miles |
| Lowest Ceiling: | Overcast / 1000 ft agl | Visibility (RVR): | 0 ft |
| Wind Speed/Gusts: | 10 knots / | Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual: | / |
| Wind Direction: | 300° | Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual: | / |
| Altimeter Setting: | 29 inches Hg | Temperature/Dew Point: | 23° C / 21° C |
| Precipitation and Obscuration: | | | |
| Departure Point: | | Type of Flight Plan Filed: | None |
| Destination: | | Type of Clearance: | Cruise; VFR |
| Departure Time: | 0900 CDT | Type of Airspace: | Class G |

Airport Information

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|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| Airport: | VETTE SEAPLANE BASE | Runway Surface Type: | Water |
| Airport Elevation: | 755 ft | Runway Surface Condition: | Water--choppy |
| Runway Used: | 0 | IFR Approach: | None |
| Runway Length/Width: | | VFR Approach/Landing: | Touch and Go |

Wreckage and Impact Information

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|----------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Crew Injuries: | 1 Minor | Aircraft Damage: | Substantial |
| Passenger Injuries: | 1 Minor | Aircraft Fire: | None |
| Ground Injuries: | N/A | Aircraft Explosion: | None |
| Total Injuries: | 2 Minor | Latitude, Longitude: | |

Administrative Information

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| Investigator In Charge (IIC): | WESLEY M ROBBINS, |
| Additional Participating Persons: | CHESTER J CYBULSKI; MILWAUKEE, WI |
| Investigation Docket: | NTSB accident and incident docket 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 pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ . |