



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| Location: | MARIPOSA, CA | Accident Number: | LAX95LA203 |
| Date & Time: | 06/01/1995, 1641 PDT | Registration: | N6985Q |
| Aircraft: | BEECH B23 | Injuries: | 1 None |
| Flight Conducted Under: | Part 91: General Aviation - Personal | | |

Analysis

THE PILOT STATED THAT WHILE ON HIS FOURTH TAKEOFF, THE AIRPLANE 'QUIT FLYING, BOUNCED ACROSS MERIDIAN BETWEEN RUNWAY AND TAXIWAY, SLID ACROSS THE TAXIWAY AND STOPPED.' THE PILOT STATED THAT OBSERVERS AND WITNESSES TOLD HIM THAT THE AIRPLANE'S ENGINE BACKFIRED AND IT SOUNDED LIKE THE ENGINE THROTTLED BACK THEN FORWARD AGAIN. THE RESPONDING FAA INSPECTOR FOUND NO WITNESSES WHO GAVE A REPORT SIMILAR TO THE PILOT'S IMPRESSION. THE FAA INSPECTOR REPORTED THAT THE PILOT SAID HE LOST DIRECTIONAL CONTROL AT LIFT-OFF, VEERED OFF THE LEFT SIDE OF THE RUNWAY, AND COLLIDED WITH THE TAXIWAY. DAMAGE TO THE PROPELLER, THE NOSE GEAR, THE NOSE COWLING, LOWER ENGINE MOUNT, AND FIREWALL RESULTED. THE PILOT DID NOT REPORT HIS FLIGHT TIME IN THE 90-DAY PERIOD PRIOR TO THE ACCIDENT. REVIEW OF THE AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE RECORDS DISCLOSED THAT THE AIRCRAFT HAS FLOWN ONLY 7 HOURS SINCE AUGUST OF 1994. AFTER THE ACCIDENT, THE AIRPLANE WAS EXAMINED BY AN AIRFRAME AND POWERPLANT MECHANIC. THE MECHANIC DID NOT FIND ANY DISCREPANCY IN THE AIRFRAME OR THE ENGINE.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the pilot's premature liftoff and his failure to attain and maintain sufficient airspeed during the initial climb which resulted in an inadvertent stall/mush back onto the runway. The pilot's failure to maintain directional control as the aircraft touched down again is also causal. A factor in the accident is the pilot's lack of recent flight experience.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (C) LIFT-OFF - PREMATURE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) AIRSPEED - NOT OBTAINED/MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) STALL/MUSH - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (F) LACK OF RECENT EXPERIENCE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

5. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
6. GROUND LOOP/SWERVE - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: NOSE GEAR COLLAPSED
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

7. TERRAIN CONDITION - SOFT
8. LANDING GEAR,NOSE GEAR ASSEMBLY - OVERLOAD

Pilot Information

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|------|
| Certificate: | Private | Age: | 64 |
| Airplane Rating(s): | Single-engine Land | Instrument Rating(s): | None |
| Other Aircraft Rating(s): | None | Instructor Rating(s): | None |
| Flight Time: | 686 hours (Total, all aircraft), 226 hours (Total, this make and model), 639 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft) | | |

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

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|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Aircraft Make: | BEECH | Registration: | N6985Q |
| Model/Series: | B23 B23 | Engines: | 1 Reciprocating |
| Operator: | HARVEY D. FERRIER | Engine Manufacturer: | LYCOMING |
| Operating Certificate(s) Held: | None | Engine Model/Series: | O-360-A2G |
| Flight Conducted Under: | Part 91: General Aviation - Personal | | |

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

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|---|-------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Conditions at Accident Site: | Visual Conditions | Condition of Light: | Day |
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | , 0 ft msl | Weather Information Source: | Pilot |
| Lowest Ceiling: | None / 0 ft agl | Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction: | 7 knots / , 270° |
| Temperature: | 24° C | Visibility | 50 Miles |
| Precipitation and Obscuration: | | | |
| Departure Point: | (O68) | Destination: | |

Airport Information

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|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| Airport: | MARIPOSA-YOSEMITE AIRPORT (O68) | Runway Surface Type: | Asphalt |
| Runway Used: | 26 | Runway Surface Condition: | Dry |
| Runway Length/Width: | 3310 ft / 50 ft | | |

Wreckage and Impact Information

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|---------------------|--------|---------------------|-------------|
| Crew Injuries: | 1 None | 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): JEFF RICH Adopted Date: 11/30/1995

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 pubinq@ntsb.gov, or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/>.

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