



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	CALHOUN, GA	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ATL91LA167
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	09/01/1991, 1630 EDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N43LT
<b>Aircraft:</b>	TAYLORCRAFT DCO-65	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	2 Minor

**Flight Conducted Under:** Part 91: General Aviation - Personal

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## Analysis

THE PILOT WAS FLYING A NORMAL, VFR APPROACH FOR LANDING. THE AIRCRAFT TOUCHED DOWN FAST, AND BOUNCED. SOME DRIFT WAS ENCOUNTERED, AND THE PILOT EXECUTED A GO-AROUND. HE DID NOT CORRECT FOR THE WIND DRIFT, AND THE AIRPLANE COLLIDED WITH ADJACENT TREES. THE AIRPLANE THEN IMPACTED THE GROUND IN A NOSE-LOW ATTITUDE. THE PILOT HAD FLOWN ONLY 3 HOURS IN THIS MODEL OF AIRPLANE. NO MECHANICAL DIFFICULTIES WERE REPORTED, AND NONE WERE FOUND DURING THE POSTACCIDENT INSPECTION.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S FAILURE TO MAINTAIN DIRECTIONAL CONTROL DURING THE GO-AROUND ATTEMPT. FACTOR(S) IN THIS ACCIDENT WERE: THE EXCESSIVE AIRSPEED AT TOUCHDOWN, AND THE PILOT'S LACK OF EXPERIENCE IN THIS MODEL OF AIRPLANE.

## Findings

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Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: GO-AROUND (VFR)

### Findings

1. (F) AIRSPEED - EXCESSIVE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) LACK OF TOTAL EXPERIENCE IN TYPE OF AIRCRAFT - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	47, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Front
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	Yes
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	07/01/1991
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	203 hours (Total, all aircraft), 3 hours (Total, this make and model), 25 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	TAYLORCRAFT	<b>Registration:</b>	N43LT
<b>Model/Series:</b>	DCO-65 DCO-65	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	No
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	5010
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	04/01/1991, Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	1300 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	40 Hours	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	2691 Hours	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	CONTINENTAL
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	A65-8F
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	ADAMS, KENNETH R.	<b>Rated Power:</b>	65 hp
<b>Operator:</b>	ADAMS, KENNETH R.	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	MGE, 1068 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	37 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1556 EDT	Direction from Accident Site:	150°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 4500 ft agl	Visibility	7 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	2 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	350°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	33° C / 19° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	CARTERSVILLE, GA (6AO)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1600 EDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

## Airport Information

Airport:	MERCER (NONE)	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	660 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	36	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3000 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full Stop

## Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	ROFF H SASSER, III	Report Date:	12/04/1992
Additional Participating Persons:	GERARD A BOISVERT; COLLEGE PARK, GA		
Publish Date:			
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 <a href="mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> .		

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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).