



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Torrance, CA	Accident Number:	WPR11CA086
Date & Time:	01/01/2011, 1245 PST	Registration:	N322RV
Aircraft:	GIORGIO ANTHONY J RV4	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Hard landing	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot/owner of the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that during landing the left main gear collapsed resulting in a ground loop. He stated to a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) inspector that after landing the airplane seemed to oscillate then it pulled to the right, resulting in a ground loop into the grass on the right side of the runway. He also stated that he was not used to carrying a passenger in the rear seat. A postaccident inspection by an FAA inspector noted damage to the engine and strut mount assembly that was consistent with a hard landing.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequate landing flare that resulted in a hard landing and a ground loop.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained (Cause) Landing flare - Not attained/maintained (Cause)
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot (Cause)

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Hard landing (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground Runway excursion

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	80, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Single-engine; Instrument Airplane	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With Waivers/Limitations	Last Medical Exam:	04/22/2010
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1696 hours (Total, all aircraft), 117 hours (Total, this make and model), 4 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	GIORGIO ANTHONY J	Registration:	N322RV
Model/Series:	RV4	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental	Serial Number:	002
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	10/01/2010, Conditional	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1650 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	25 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	117 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-320 SERIES
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	180 hp
Operator:	On file	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	TOA, 103 ft msl	Observation Time:	1247 PST
Distance from Accident Site:		Condition of Light:	Day
Direction from Accident Site:		Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 1500 ft agl	Temperature/Dew Point:	16°C / -3°C
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 10000 ft agl	Visibility	20 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	5 knots, Variable	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:	30.26 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Torrance, CA (TOA)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Torrance, CA (TOA)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1230 PST	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Zamperini Field Airport (TOA)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt; Concrete
Airport Elevation:	103 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	29R	IFR Approach:	Unknown
Runway Length/Width:	5001 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Unknown

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Patrick H Jones	Adopted Date:	05/26/2011
Additional Participating Persons:	Michael Pickering; Federal Aviation Administration; Long Beach, CA		
Publish Date:	05/26/2011		
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.ntsb.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=78102		

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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