



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Preliminary Report

Location:	Centralia, IL	Accident Number:	CEN16LA096
Date & Time:	02/01/2016, 1435 CST	Registration:	N41852
Aircraft:	RAYMOND Z BROWN CONDOR	Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

On February 1, 2016, about 1435 central standard time, an amateur-built Condor gyroplane, N41852, impacted terrain near Centralia, Illinois. The sport pilot was fatally injured and the gyroplane was substantially damaged. The gyroplane was registered to and operated by a private individual under the provisions of 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91 as a personal flight. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the flight, which operated without a flight plan. The local flight was departing from the Centralia Municipal Airport (KENL), Centralia, Illinois at the time of the accident.

According to information obtained by the responding Federal Aviation Administration inspectors, an eyewitness watched the gyroplane as it departed runway 36. During the climb out, the gyroplane began a right turn during which the witness perceived that the rotor blades began to slow. The gyroplane then made a sharp left turn and began descending. After the gyroplane did a quick flare, it descended out of view and rolled over. The witness ran to the accident site and called for assistance. The accident occurred about 1 mile from the airport.

The gyroplane was retained for further examination.

At 1435, an automated weather reporting station located at ENL reported a wind from 040 at 5 knots, visibility 10 miles, a clear sky, temperature 54° F, dew point 32° F, and an altimeter setting of 29.99 inches of mercury.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	RAYMOND Z BROWN	Registration:	N41852
Model/Series:	CONDOR NO SERIES	Aircraft Category:	Gyroplane
Amateur Built:	Yes		
Operator:	On file	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	KENL, 534 ft msl	Observation Time:	1435 CST
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Temperature/Dew Point:	12° C / 0° C
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	5 knots, 40°	Visibility	10 Miles
Altimeter Setting:	29.99 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Departure Point:	Centralia, IL (KENL)	Destination:	Centralia, IL (KENL)

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Jason T Aguilera
Additional Participating Persons:	Stanley Swank; FAA FSDO; Springfield, IL
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.