



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	Vernon, TX	<b>Accident Number:</b>	GAA18CA205
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	04/05/2018, 1445 CDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N71617
<b>Aircraft:</b>	LUSCOMBE 8	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Loss of control on ground	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

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## Analysis

The pilot of the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that, during the three-point landing, almost immediately after touchdown, the airplane veered to the left, ground looped to the left, and the right main landing gear collapsed. He added that the airplane came to rest facing 180° opposite of the landing direction in the grass off the left side of the runway.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the right wing and right aileron.

He further reported that when loading the airplane onto the trailer for recovery, he noticed there was a crack in the right gear leg just above the weld to the axle. He added that 2/3 of the brake showed fresh metal, and the other 1/3 was rusted and corroded.

The automated weather observation system located at the accident airport reported that, about the time of the accident, the wind was from 230° at 9 knots, gusting to 16 knots. The pilot landed on runway 20.

## 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 landing

## Findings

<b>Aircraft</b>	Directional control - Not attained/maintained (Cause) Main landing gear - Fatigue/wear/corrosion
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Aircraft control - Pilot (Cause)

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

Landing	Loss of control on ground (Defining event) Runway excursion
Landing-landing roll	Landing gear collapse

### Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	43, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Restraint Used:	Unknown
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Without Waivers/Limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	04/20/2018
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	06/17/2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 1307 hours (Total, all aircraft), 300 hours (Total, this make and model), 1195 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	LUSCOMBE	Registration:	N71617
Model/Series:	8 A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1946	Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	3044
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	04/05/2018, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1260 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3660.5 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	C91 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	A65F
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	65 hp
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KF05, 1265 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1935 UTC	Direction from Accident Site:	313°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	9 knots / 16 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	230°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.91 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	24° C / 1° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	FAIRVIEW, OK (6K4)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Vernon, TX (F05)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1245 CDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

## Airport Information

Airport:	WILBARGER COUNTY (F05)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1264 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	20	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5099 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full Stop; Traffic Pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	34.225278, -99.283056 (est)

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Eric A Swenson	Report Date:	08/27/2018
Additional Participating Persons:	Steve R White; FAA; Lubbock, TX		
Publish Date:	08/27/2018		
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	<a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=97005">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=97005</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](#).