



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Bolivar, Missouri	Accident Number:	GAA19CA012
Date & Time:	October 7, 2018, 18:20 Local	Registration:	N225JB
Aircraft:	BEARDEN BIPLANE SOPWITH CAMEL	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that, during the landing, the tailwheel-equipped airplane touched down and veered left. The pilot attempted to correct with opposite rudder; however, the airplane continued left. He then attempted a go-around, but the airplane exited the runway, struck a ditch, and then nosed over.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the rudder.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

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

Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Environmental issues	Sloped/uneven terrain - Contributed to outcome

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-flare/touchdown	Attempted remediation/recovery
Landing-landing roll	Runway excursion
Landing-landing roll	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)
Landing-landing roll	Nose over/nose down

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Flight engineer; Private	Age:	67,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Single
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 19, 2017
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	January 30, 2018
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 18400 hours (Total, all aircraft), 3 hours (Total, this make and model), 14587 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BEARDEN BIPLANE	Registration:	N225JB
Model/Series:	SOPWITH CAMEL	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2018	Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	63017
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1106 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3.24 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-A2B
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KSGF, 1270 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	21 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	23:52 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	185°
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 4100 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	310°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.97 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	24°C / 22°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Bolivar, MO (M17)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Bolivar, MO (M17)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	17:55 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	Bolivar Muni M17	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1092 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	18	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4000 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	37.596111,-93.347778(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Nepomuceno, Eleazar
Additional Participating Persons:	Thomas Davis; FAA; Kansas City, MO
Original Publish Date:	June 5, 2019
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=98436

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.

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](#).