



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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| Location: | GRAND CANYON, AZ | Accident Number: | DCA89MA076 |
| Date & Time: | 09/27/1989, 0953 MST | Registration: | N75GC |
| Aircraft: | de Havilland DHC-6-300 | Aircraft Damage: | Destroyed |
| Defining Event: | | Injuries: | 10 Fatal, 9 Serious, 2 Minor |

Flight Conducted Under: Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled

Analysis

GRAND CANYON AIRLINES FLT 5 (DEHAVILLAND DHC-6, N75GC) DEPD GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK ARPT ON A LOCAL PART 135, SIGHT- SEEING FLT. AFTER RTRNG FROM A NORMAL TRIP, THE FLT WAS CLEARED TO LAND ON RWY 21. OBSERVERS RPRTD THE APCH TO THE ARPT WAS NORMAL, BUT THE ACFT TRAVELED ABOUT 1000' DOWN THE RWY AT AN ALT OF ABOUT 5' BEFORE TOUCHDOWN. RPRTDLY, IT BOUNCED & TRAVELED ANOTHER 1000' BEFORE TOUCHING DOWN AGAIN. THE ACFT THEN VEERED TO THE RGT & THE FLT CREW INITIATED A GO-AROUND (ABORTED LNDG). THE ACFT CLIMBED IN A NOSE HIGH ALT TO ABOUT 150' TO 200' AGL, THEN IT ROLLED TO THE LEFT & CRASHED ONTOA WOODED HILL ABOUT 120' LEFT OF THE RWY. A PWR LINE WAS SEVERED DURING IMPACT, WHICH INTERRUPTED ELEC PWR TO THE ARPT & DELAYED EMERG RESPONSE TO THE CRASH. SURVIVING PSGRS RPRTD THE RGT SEAT PLT WAS FLYING THE ACFT, WHILE THE LEFT SEAT PLTNARRATED THE TOUR; BUT AFTER A HARD TOUCHDOWN, THE LEFT SEAT PLT TOOK CTL OF THE ACFT & APPLIED FULL PWR FOR A GO-AROUND. A SCRAPE MARK WAS FND WHERE THE RGT WINGTIP SCRAPED THE RWY DURING THE 2ND TOUCHDOWN.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: IMPROPER PILOT TECHNIQUES AND CREW COORDINATION DURING THE LANDING ATTEMPT, BOUNCE, AND ATTEMPTED GO-AROUND.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ABORTED

Findings

1. (C) FLARE - IMPROPER - COPILOT/SECOND PILOT
2. (C) CREW/GROUP COORDINATION - IMPROPER
3. (C) RECOVERY FROM BOUNCED LANDING - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. GO-AROUND - ATTEMPTED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

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| Certificate: | Airline Transport; Flight Instructor; Commercial | Age: | 47, Male |
| Airplane Rating(s): | Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land | Seat Occupied: | Left |
| Other Aircraft Rating(s): | None | Restraint Used: | Seatbelt, Shoulder harness |
| Instrument Rating(s): | Airplane | Second Pilot Present: | Yes |
| Instructor Rating(s): | Airplane Single-engine | Toxicology Performed: | Yes |
| Medical Certification: | Class 1 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim. | Last FAA Medical Exam: | 04/28/1989 |
| Occupational Pilot: | | Last Flight Review or Equivalent: | |
| Flight Time: | 4120 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2610 hours (Total, this make and model), 4014 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 297 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 79 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft) | | |

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

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|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Aircraft Manufacturer: | de Havilland | Registration: | N75GC |
| Model/Series: | DHC-6-300 DHC-6-300 | Aircraft Category: | Airplane |
| Year of Manufacture: | | Amateur Built: | No |
| Airworthiness Certificate: | Normal | Serial Number: | 439 |
| Landing Gear Type: | Tricycle | Seats: | 21 |
| Date/Type of Last Inspection: | 09/23/1989, Continuous Airworthiness | Certified Max Gross Wt.: | 12500 lbs |
| Time Since Last Inspection: | 19 Hours | Engines: | 2 Turbo Prop |
| Airframe Total Time: | 11180 Hours | Engine Manufacturer: | P&W |
| ELT: | | Engine Model/Series: | PT6A-27 |
| Registered Owner: | GRAND CANYON AIRLINES | Rated Power: | 620 hp |
| Operator: | GRAND CANYON AIRLINES | Operating Certificate(s) Held: | On-demand Air Taxi (135) |
| Operator Does Business As: | | Operator Designator Code: | GCNA |

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

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| Conditions at Accident Site: | Visual Conditions | Condition of Light: | Day |
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | GCN, 6660 ft msl | Observation Time: | 0950 MST |
| Distance from Accident Site: | 0 Nautical Miles | Direction from Accident Site: | 0° |
| Lowest Cloud Condition: | Scattered / 8000 ft agl | Temperature/Dew Point: | 23° C / 5° C |
| Lowest Ceiling: | None / 0 ft agl | Visibility | 50 Miles |
| Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction: | 7 knots, 160° | Visibility (RVR): | 0 ft |
| Altimeter Setting: | 30 inches Hg | Visibility (RVV): | 0 Miles |
| Precipitation and Obscuration: | | | |
| Departure Point: | | Type of Flight Plan Filed: | Company VFR |
| Destination: | | Type of Clearance: | None |
| Departure Time: | 0000 | Type of Airspace: | Class D |

Airport Information

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|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Airport: | GRAND CANYON (GCN) | Runway Surface Type: | Asphalt |
| Airport Elevation: | 6606 ft | Runway Surface Condition: | Dry |
| Runway Used: | 21 | IFR Approach: | None |
| Runway Length/Width: | 8999 ft / 150 ft | VFR Approach/Landing: | Go Around |

Wreckage and Impact Information

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|---------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| Crew Injuries: | 2 Fatal | Aircraft Damage: | Destroyed |
| Passenger Injuries: | 8 Fatal, 9 Serious, 2 Minor | Aircraft Fire: | None |
| Ground Injuries: | N/A | Aircraft Explosion: | None |
| Total Injuries: | 10 Fatal, 9 Serious, 2 Minor | Latitude, Longitude: | |

Administrative Information

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|-----------------------------------|--|---------------|------------|
| Investigator In Charge (IIC): | THOMAS HAUETER | Adopted Date: | 09/05/1991 |
| Additional Participating Persons: | HAROLD DONNER; WASHINGTON, DC KEARN BURNETT; QUEBEC, CD CHRISTIAN VIELLEUSE; ST. HUBERT, CD IAN GILCHRIST; ONTARIO, CD | | |
| 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 pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ . | | |

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