** CAF**

**Safety**

**Jim Lasche Bulletin**

**CAF VP of Safety Operations & Maintenance 6 Aug 2018**

**Accident – CAF Douglas C-47 Takeoff Accident Runway 19 Burnet, TX (KBMQ)**

**1: Info:**

* Accident – Date 21 July 2018
* Time 0917L
* WX – Clear – 84F, Winds – 200/9 knots – Alt 30.08
* Aircraft – Douglas – C-47 N47HL
* Route of Fight – KBMQ-KDMO-KOSH
* Aircraft Damage – Total Loss
* Classification – Accident
* Location of Accident – On the Airfield just East of Rwy 19
* CAF Unit – Highland Lakes Sq – Crew - 3
* CAF AC/Pilot Randy Foster – Injuries – \*Serious
* Co-Pilot Gregg Squires – Injuries – None
* Flt Eng – Stephen Driskell – Injuries – \*Serious
* PAX – 10 – Injuries - 4 \*Serious, 1 Minor, 5 none

\* Serious injuries are all 2nd degree burns

* Property damage – Yes, pavement on taxiway, PAX & Crew personal property

**2: Narrative Taken from the NTSB Preliminary Report**

**On July 21, 2018, about 0915 central daylight time, a tailwheel equipped Douglas DC-3 twin-engine airplane, N47HL, was destroyed when it impacted terrain during takeoff from the Burnet Municipal Airport, Burnet, Texas.  The airplane was registered to American Airpower Heritage Flying Museum Inc., and operated by the Commemorative Air Force (CAF) under the provisions of Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations*Part 91 as a personal flight.  The airline transport captain, crew chief, and 4 passengers sustained serious injuries, 1 passenger sustained minor injuries, and the airline transport co-pilot and 5 passengers were not injured.  Visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and no flight plan was filed for the cross-country flight.  The flight was originating at the time of the accident with an intended destination of Sedalia Regional Airport (DMO), Sedalia, Missouri.**

**Representatives from the CAF reported that the intention of the flight was to travel to Oshkosh, Wisconsin, to attend an airshow, with an intermediate fuel stop at DMO.**

**The co-pilot, who was the flying pilot (FP) reported that prior to the flight, it was briefed that he would perform the takeoff.  He stated that the captain taxied the airplane to the runup area, where all pre-takeoff checks were completed; the captain then taxied the airplane onto runway 19.  The co-pilot further stated that he then took control of the airplane, provided a pre-takeoff brief, and initiated the takeoff sequence.  About 10 seconds into the takeoff roll, the airplane drifted right, at which time he applied left rudder input. This was followed shortly by the captain saying that he had the airplane.**

**The captain, who was the non-flying pilot (NFP), reported that during the initial stages of the takeoff roll, he didn't recall the airplane swerving to the right, however, recalled telling the co-pilot not to push the tail up because it was heavy; he also remembered the airplane swerving to the left shortly thereafter. The captain stated that he yelled "right rudder" three times before taking control of the airplane.  He said that as he put his hands on the control yoke, he noticed that either the tail started to come down or the main wheels were either light or were just coming off the ground as it exited the left side of the runway.  The captain said that he knew the airplane was slow as he tried to ease it [the airplane] over [to the runway] and set it back down. Subsequently, he felt the 'shutter of a stall," and the airplane turned to the left and impacted the ground. After the airplane came to a stop, a postimpact fire ensued, during which all the occupants of the airplane egressed through the aft left door.**

**Examination of the accident site revealed that the airplane came to rest upright on a heading of about 113° magnetic, about 145ft east of the left side, and 2,638 ft from the approach end of runway 19.  The postimpact fire consumed the fuselage from the nose cone aft to about 3 ft forward of the left side cargo door along with a majority of the wing center section.  No evidence of any flight control locks was found installed.  The tailwheel locking pin was found in place and was sheered into multiple pieces.  Vegetation (grass) within about 200 ft of the main wreckage was burnt from the postimpact fire.  The wreckage was recovered to a secure location for further examination.**

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**\*\*\*The NTSB and FAA accident investigation is ongoing\*\*\***

**3: It is important to note that the aircraft was heavy but below max gross weight with the CG in limits just slightly aft of center. The crew reported no mechanical issues with the aircraft and during the preliminary investigation none were found. Multiple interviews of the crew and Squadron members were conducted.**

**4. Other Safety Considerations/lessons learned from this accident**

**1. The importance of wearing the Nomex flight suit! Some of the 2nd degree burns in this case could have been avoided.**

**2. The fire destroyed laptops, cell phones, acft and mission paperwork to include log books, WT & Balance, and other aircraft records. Keep a duplicate of aircraft records and leave a copy of the PAX Manifest/Hold Harmless and WT & Balance/Load Plan if applicable behind.**

**3. Be sure to leave route of flight and emergency contact info with the unit Operations Officer or a designated representative before departure.**

**4. Be sure to include an emergency egress plan in your crew brief including exits and how to operate them. In this case, the egress went very well!**

**5. Brief your crew and PAX about bringing HAZMAT materials on board the aircraft.**

**7. CAF HQ is activating a Tiger Team to develop and review CAF HQ pilot training requirements to include continuity, proficiency, training and documentation. An internal and external safety review will be conducted.**

**8. Below is the link to the accident video taken by an eye witness to the accident**

**\*\*\*Be advised there is profanity used by the person doing the filming of this accident**

<https://sputniknews.com/amp/us/201807221066579264-historic-plane-crashes-during-takeoff-texas/>







