

Communication Summary

June 22, 2016

Information From: Robert Collier, Mooney ASI



Summary & Factual Information:

Mr. Collier was asked if it was the retraction link represented in the photo and he indicated that it was the retraction link.

He was asked if the bolt fell out of it, would it cause the nose wheel to castor into the wind on a take-off roll and he indicated that he did not believe it would allow the wheel to castor if the bolt fell out. The steering/rudder push pull rods should prevent the wheel from moving either direction, but it is possible with that one element missing to cause a sudden turn of the wheel.

He was asked if he had ever heard of an occurrence of this before and he indicated that he had never heard of this occurring.

Mr. Collier was asked what other condition or failure might cause the aircraft to swerve hard to one side and he replied that it is very possible this caused the sudden swerve.

I can attest that the above summary is correct to the best of my knowledge:

Edward F. Malinowski
National Transportation Safety Board
Air Safety Investigator