

John Brannen

From: Ted Pokorski [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 1:23 PM
To: John Brannen
Subject: Re: Glider accident, June 21, 2023

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Hi John:

Here are the answers:

1. A
2. Front
3. No student pilot certificate at the time
4. Total flight time before the flight on 6/21 in all aircraft - 3 hours 45 minutes
5. Total flight time in the Blanik - 3 hours, remainder of time was in the Grob
6. Only a few things to add:
 - a. [REDACTED] doesn't recall Jim calling in the landing on the radio when they started the pattern to land off field.
 - b. [REDACTED] blacked out at about 10-15 feet above the ground, he believes they were pitched very steeply at the ground. During the entire flight [REDACTED] was shadowing on the controls, as they came in on final from the north he feels like the controls were very loose - either Jim wasn't providing input or the aircraft was near stall.

Glad to jump on a call with [REDACTED] if any further detail or clarification is needed.

Ted

On Feb 14, 2024, at 3:34 PM, John Brannen [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi Ted,

I am the NTSB Investigator that is assigned to the accident that happened last June involving the LET L-23 Super Blanik glider, N10BR, on June 21, 2023.

During the course of the investigation, I have been in communication with Mr. Dennis Heinze from the FAA. I just wanted to confirm a few items for my report. I understand that you were not on-board but that your son was taking lessons at the time. If you and your son could answer the following questions, I would appreciate it.

1. [REDACTED]'s middle initial
2. Which seat did [REDACTED] use in the glider (Front/rear)
3. Did he hold a student pilot certificate at the time? If so can you provide that certificate number.
4. Estimate of how much logged flight time he had in all aircraft
5. Estimated total hours in the same make and model glider at the time of the accident.

6. Finally, shortly after the accident, Mr. Heinze provided me with the following narrative. Can you confirm this is accurate and let me know if you or [REDACTED] have anything more to add.
- Spoke with Ted (Father) & Anthony (Son student pilot) last night he has some recollection of accident but was not sure on altitude but said he had been flying until about 10 minutes before accident then Jim CFI took over and started looking for thermals to gain altitude. Jim CFI was mostly quiet till he said they were going to do off field landing. Came across tree line at about 150' and turned to land in bean field he was out after that.

Feel free to call or e-mail if you have any questions. Note: I will be on vacation from Feb 17-26 and will not have phone or computer access during this time.

Thank You,

John M. Brannen II

Senior Air Safety Investigator

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