



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	FALLBROOK, CA	Accident Number:	LAX93LA057
Date & Time:	12/02/1992, 1012 PST	Registration:	N5035F
Aircraft:	HUGHES 369B	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 133: Rotorcraft Ext. Load		

Analysis

THE PILOT AND NONFLYING CREWMEMBER WERE PLACING MARKER BALLS ON HIGH TENSION WIRES. THE PILOT MISJUDGED THE DISTANCE FROM THE WIRES AND A MAIN ROTOR BLADE STRUCK THE UPPER GUIDE WIRE OF THE HIGH TENSION WIRES. THE MAIN ROTOR BLADE SEVERED THE TAIL BOOM ASSEMBLY. THE HELICOPTER ROTATED AFTER THE IMPACT AND THE TAIL BOOM ASSEMBLY STRUCK THE HIGH TENSION WIRES STANCHION. THE HELICOPTER PLUMMETED, UNCONTROLLED, TO THE GROUND. THE WRECKAGE AND VIDEO TAPE EXAMINATION DISCLOSED NO EVIDENCE OF ANY PREEXISTING MALFUNCTIONS OR FAILURES.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THAT THE PILOT MISJUDGED THE DISTANCE OF THE HIGH TENSION WIRES FROM THE HELICOPTER.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. OBJECT - WIRE, TRANSMISSION
 2. (C) DISTANCE - MISJUDGED - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

3. TERRAIN CONDITION - MOUNTAINOUS/HILLY

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	29, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	10/28/1992
Occupational Pilot:	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:		
Flight Time:	5764 hours (Total, all aircraft), 4207 hours (Total, this make and model), 5560 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 150 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	HUGHES	Registration:	N5035F
Model/Series:	369B 369B	Aircraft Category:	Helicopter
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	711013D
Landing Gear Type:	Skid	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	08/25/1992, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2100 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	25 Hours	Engines:	1 Turbo Shaft
Airframe Total Time:	8436 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	ALLISON
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	250-C20B
Registered Owner:	HVERFIELD CORPORATION	Rated Power:	
Operator:	HVERFIELD CORPORATION	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	HXFL

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0000	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility	6 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 3000 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	Light and Variable /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	Variable	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1007 PST	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	A. D Llorente	Report Date:	08/30/1993
Additional Participating Persons:	ASI J. REYNOLDS; SAN DIEGO, CA JACK MITTER; MESA, AZ		
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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