



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	SUBLETTE, KS	Accident Number:	MKC89LA018
Date & Time:	11/01/1988, 1230 CST	Registration:	N5517X
Aircraft:	ROCKWELL S2R	Injuries:	1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Analysis

WHILE CONDUCTING AN AERIAL APPLICATION OPERATION, THE AIRCRAFT STRUCK SOME CROSS-COUNTRY POWER LINES. THE ACFT NOSED DOWN AND STRUCK THE TERRAIN, CAUSING SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE TO THE ACFT AND SERIOUS INJURIES TO THE PILOT. THE PILOT WAS UNABLE TO RECALL THE EVENTS IMMEDIATELY BEFORE STRIKING THE POWER LINES.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

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

Findings

1. (F) OBJECT - WIRE, TRANSMISSION
2. (C) VISUAL LOOKOUT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) CLEARANCE - MISJUDGED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	45
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	9000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 4000 hours (Total, this make and model), 9000 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 100 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	ROCKWELL	Registration:	N5517X
Model/Series:	S2R S2R	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	STAPLETON, DORSEY G.	Engine Manufacturer:	P&W
Operating Certificate(s) Held:		Engine Model/Series:	R-1340-AN1
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	GCK, 2888 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	4 knots / , 240°
Temperature:	22° C	Visibility	12 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	WATSON, KS (KS51)	Destination:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:			

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	JOHN R HRUBAN	Adopted Date:	11/07/1989
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident docket 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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