



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	VERNAL, UT	Accident Number:	DEN86LA016
Date & Time:	11/01/1985, 1630 MST	Registration:	N400AH
Aircraft:	HILLER UH-12E	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled		

Analysis

THE PLT STATED HE HAD JUST DEPARTED A SITE LOCATED ON TOP OF A MOUNTAIN, WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY 12,200 FT MSL. THE PILOT SAID 30 SECONDS LATER, THE HELICOPTER LOST PARTIAL POWER. REQUIRING HIM TO MAKE A FORCE LANDING. THE INSPECTION OF THE TURBOCHARGER REVEALED THE COMPRESSOR IMPELLER RETAINING NUT HAD BACKED OFF, ALLOWING THE COMPRESSOR IMPELLER TO CONTACT THE COMPRESSOR SHROUD AND LEADING TO THE SEIZURE OF THE IMPELLER. THIS RESULTED IN THE FAILURE OF THE TURBOCHARGER.

Probable Cause

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: AIRFRAME/COMPONENT/SYSTEM FAILURE/MALFUNCTION
Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

1. (C) EXHAUST SYSTEM, TURBOCHARGER - FAILURE, TOTAL

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

2. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - MOUNTAINOUS/HILLY

Occurrence #3: HARD LANDING
Phase of Operation: LANDING

Findings

3. LANDING GEAR, SKID ASSEMBLY - BUCKLED
4. ROTOR SYSTEM, MAIN ROTOR BLADE - BENT
5. ROTOR SYSTEM, TAIL ROTOR BLADE - BENT
6. ROTOR DRIVE SYSTEM, TAIL ROTOR DRIVE SHAFT - SEPARATION

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Private	Age:	32
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	4641 hours (Total, all aircraft), 4260 hours (Total, this make and model), 4200 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 30 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	HILLER	Registration:	N400AH
Model/Series:	UH-12E UH-12E	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	CALVIN D. HUNT	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand Air Taxi (135)	Engine Model/Series:	TIVO-540-A2A
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	VEL, 5274 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	Calm / ,
Temperature:	10°C	Visibility	46 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Destination:	

Airport Information

Airport:	VERNAL (VEL)	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Runway Used:	0	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:			

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): RONALD E MICKLE

Adopted 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/>.

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report.