



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	PLINY, WV	Accident Number:	ATL84FA001
Date & Time:	10/01/1983, 0945 EDT	Registration:	N1334X
Aircraft:	Bell 47G-3B1	Injuries:	1 Fatal, 2 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 133: Rotorcraft Ext. Load		

Analysis

THE HELICOPTER WAS BEING USED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF ELECT TRANSMISSION LINES. A 150-FT LONGLINE CABLE HAD BEEN UTILIZED ON AN EARLIER FLIGHT FOR LIFTING EXTERNAL LOADS. HOWEVER, THERE WAS NO REASON FOR THE LONGLINE TO BE ATTACHED ON THE ACCIDENT FLIGHT AS THE PAX WERE BEING TRANSPORTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THEIR CONSTRUCTION & INSPECTION DUTIES. THE HELICOPTER TOOK OFF WITH THE LONGLINE ATTACHED & NO EXTERNAL LOAD. AFTER TAKEOFF, THE HELICOPTER MOVED FORWARD ABOUT 200 FT TO A TREELINE & BEGAN A LEFT TURN, AWAY FROM TOWER 51 WHERE THE TAKEOFF WAS INITIATED, TOWARD A POINT WHERE ONE OF THE PAX WAS TO BE DISCHARGED. AS THE HELICOPTER FLEW OVER THE TREES THE LONGLINE BECAME ENTANGLED IN THE TREES.

Probable Cause

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (C) MISC EQPT/FURNISHINGS - NOT REMOVED
2. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - HIGH OBSTRUCTION(S)
4. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)
5. LOAD JETTISON - NOT USED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	40
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane; Helicopter
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Instructor Rating(s):	Helicopter
Flight Time:	9625 hours (Total, all aircraft), 310 hours (Total, this make and model), 287 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Bell	Registration:	N1334X
Model/Series:	47G-3B1 47G-3B1	Engines:	1 Turbo Shaft
Operator:	BEARTOOTH HELICOPTERS, INC.	Engine Manufacturer:	ALLISON
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand Air Taxi (135)	Engine Model/Series:	250-C20
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 133: Rotorcraft Ext. Load		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	CRW, 982 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 4000 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	3 knots / , 50°
Temperature:	13° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Destination:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	JOHN B DRAKE	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/ .		

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