



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Preliminary Report

Location:	Spanish Fork, UT	Accident Number:	WPR16LA155
Date & Time:	08/01/2016, 1840 MDT	Registration:	N234AV
Aircraft:	BEECH C 99	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Scheduled		

On August 1, 2016, about 1840 mountain daylight time, a twin-engine turboprop Beech C-99 airplane, N234AV, sustained substantial damage following a collision with an object in the vicinity of Spanish Fork, Utah. The airplane was operated as AMF1843 by Ameriflight, LLC, Dallas, Texas, as a visual flight rules scheduled cargo flight under the provisions of 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 135. The commercial pilot was not injured. Visual meteorological conditions were reported at the time of the accident, and company flight following procedures were in effect. The flight originated at the Carbon County Regional Airport (PUC), Price, Utah about 1825 destined for Salt Lake City, Utah.

In a telephone conversation with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) investigator-in-charge, the pilot said that he had departed PUC enroute to Salt Lake. He was in a cruise climb, climbing through about 8,500 feet when he noticed something pass the airplane in his peripheral vision, then felt a "thud" as something struck the airplane. He said that he thought it was a bird strike and there was no loss of control or abnormal control feel, so he elected to continue the flight to Salt Lake and landed uneventfully. After exiting the airplane, the pilot noticed that about 12 inches of the vertical stabilizer was missing and there was substantial damage to the rudder.

Initial examination of the severed area of the stabilizer showed no evidence of organic material. The separated portion of the stabilizer has yet to be located. A detailed examination of the damaged area by the NTSB Materials Laboratory is pending.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	BEECH	Registration:	N234AV
Model/Series:	C 99 NO SERIES	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Amateur Built:	No		
Operator:	AMERIFLIGHT INC	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	Commuter Air Carrier (135)
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	JIKA

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	KPVU, 4497 ft msl	Observation Time:	0050 UTC
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 12000 ft agl	Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 14000 ft agl	Temperature/Dew Point:	31° C / 8° C
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	4 knots, 20°	Visibility	10 Miles
Altimeter Setting:	30.03 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Company VFR
Departure Point:	PRICE, UT (PUC)	Destination:	Salt Lake City, UT (SLC)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Christopher R Shaver
Additional Participating Persons:	Jeffery L Smith; FAA Salt Lake FSDO; Salt Lake City, UT
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.