



## National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

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|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Location:</b>               | Franklin, KY                           | <b>Accident Number:</b> | ERA19TA213  |
| <b>Date &amp; Time:</b>        | 07/08/2019, 1112 CDT                   | <b>Registration:</b>    | N41830      |
| <b>Aircraft:</b>               | CONTINENTAL COPTERS INC<br>TOMCAT MK6C | <b>Aircraft Damage:</b> | Substantial |
| <b>Defining Event:</b>         | Miscellaneous/other                    | <b>Injuries:</b>        | 1 Minor     |
| <b>Flight Conducted Under:</b> | Part 137: Agricultural                 |                         |             |

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On July 8, 2019, about 1112 central daylight time, a Continental Copters Tomcat MK6C, N41830, was substantially damaged while maneuvering near Franklin, Kentucky. The commercial pilot sustained minor injuries. The local aerial application flight was conducted under the provisions of Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 137. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed and no flight plan was filed for the flight that departed a field near Franklin, Kentucky, about 1110.

The pilot stated that after 50 gallons of chemical and 5 gallons of fuel were added to the helicopter, he departed from a rooftop helipad of a truck in light and variable wind, to spray a field. As the helicopter turned, descended and leveled off to spray the field, the pilot realized that the main rotor rpm began to decay. He increased throttle, lowered the collective, and applied aft cyclic to increase rotor rpm, however, the tailboom contacted the ground and the helicopter rolled inverted. The pilot added that there were no preimpact mechanical malfunctions with the helicopter.

Examination of the wreckage by a Federal Aviation Administration inspector revealed damage to the main rotor blades, tailrotor, fuselage, and tailboom.

## Pilot Information

|                                  |   |  |            |
|----------------------------------|---|--|------------|
| <b>Certificate:</b>              | Commercial  | <b>Age:</b>                              | 35, Male   |
| <b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>       | None  | <b>Seat Occupied:</b>                    | Center     |
| <b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b> | Helicopter  | <b>Restraint Used:</b>                   | 4-point    |
| <b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>     | None  | <b>Second Pilot Present:</b>             | No         |
| <b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>     | None  | <b>Toxicology Performed:</b>             | No         |
| <b>Medical Certification:</b>    | Class 2 With Waivers/Limitations  | <b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>            | 06/04/2017 |
| <b>Occupational Pilot:</b>       | Yes   | <b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b> | 03/04/2019 |
| <b>Flight Time:</b>              | 2128 hours (Total, all aircraft), 29 hours (Total, this make and model) |  |            |

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

|                                      |                                  |                                       |                             |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Aircraft Make:</b>                | CONTINENTAL COPTERS INC          | <b>Registration:</b>                  | N41830                      |
| <b>Model/Series:</b>                 | TOMCAT MK6C                      | <b>Aircraft Category:</b>             | Helicopter                  |
| <b>Year of Manufacture:</b>          |                                  | <b>Amateur Built:</b>                 | No                          |
| <b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>    | Restricted                       | <b>Serial Number:</b>                 | CCI-73-2                    |
| <b>Landing Gear Type:</b>            | Skid                             | <b>Seats:</b>                         | 1                           |
| <b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b> | 10/23/2018, Annual               | <b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>       | 2950 lbs                    |
| <b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>   | 128 Hours                        | <b>Engines:</b>                       | 1 Reciprocating             |
| <b>Airframe Total Time:</b>          | 6549 Hours as of last inspection | <b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>           | Lycomig                     |
| <b>ELT:</b>                          | Not installed                    | <b>Engine Model/Series:</b>           | VO-435                      |
| <b>Registered Owner:</b>             | Eric Wolfe                       | <b>Rated Power:</b>                   | 250 hp                      |
| <b>Operator:</b>                     | On file                          | <b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b> | Agricultural Aircraft (137) |
| <b>Operator Does Business As:</b>    | Tri State Helicopters Inc        | <b>Operator Designator Code:</b>      | TCSG                        |

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

|                                  |                                  |   |                   |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Conditions at Accident Site:     | Visual Conditions                | Condition of Light:                     | Day               |
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | BWG, 547 ft msl                  | Distance from Accident Site:            | 20 Nautical Miles |
| Observation Time:                | 1104 CDT                         | Direction from Accident Site:           | 30°               |
| Lowest Cloud Condition:          | Few / 2100 ft agl                | Visibility                              | 10 Miles          |
| Lowest Ceiling:                  | Broken / 5000 ft agl             | Visibility (RVR):                       |                   |
| Wind Speed/Gusts:                | 3 knots /                        | Turbulence Type<br>Forecast/Actual:     | None / None       |
| Wind Direction:                  | Variable                         | Turbulence Severity<br>Forecast/Actual: | N/A / N/A         |
| Altimeter Setting:               | 29.98 inches Hg                  | Temperature/Dew Point:                  | 29° C / 24° C     |
| Precipitation and Obscuration:   | No Obscuration; No Precipitation |   |                   |
| Departure Point:                 | Franklin, KY                     | Type of Flight Plan Filed:              | None              |
| Destination:                     | Franklin, KY                     | Type of Clearance:                      | None              |
| Departure Time:                  | 1110 CDT                         | Type of Airspace:                       |                   |

## Wreckage and Impact Information

|                     |         |                      |                       |
|---------------------|---------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Crew Injuries:      | 1 Minor | Aircraft Damage:     | Substantial           |
| Passenger Injuries: | N/A     | Aircraft Fire:       | None                  |
| Ground Injuries:    | N/A     | Aircraft Explosion:  | None                  |
| Total Injuries:     | 1 Minor | Latitude, Longitude: | 36.681111, -86.631111 |

## Administrative Information

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Investigator In Charge (IIC):     | Robert J Gretz  |
| Additional Participating Persons: | James Zehr; FAA/FSDO; Louisville, KY  |
| Note:                             | The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.  |
| Investigation Docket:             | <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=99789">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=99789</a> |