



RECORD OF MEMORANDUM

Samantha Link
Aviation Accident Investigator
Western Pacific Region

Date: April 24, 2020
Person Contacted: Mesa Police Department
NTSB Accident Number: WPR20LA130

Narrative:

The Mesa Police Department gathered the following witness statements while on scene:

Mr. Matt O’Hair reported: “we were driving westbound on baseline road when I observed a helicopter flying low, north of our location. A piece of helicopter had fallen off and fell to the ground. The helicopter fell even lower in the sky and I briefly lost visual. When it came back into view the helicopter rolled over with its belly up and it disappeared.”

Mr. Samuel Buttes was in the “eastside lot at Larry Miller Ford when we heard a helicopter right above us. We looked up to see the helicopter out of control and the tail rotor came off. The rotor was smoking. We ran out of the way and he [the pilot] made it over the next building out of sight. The rear propeller landed in the dirt lot and that is all.”

END.

Submitted by: Samantha Link



RECORD OF EMAIL

Samantha Link
Aviation Accident Investigator
Western Pacific Region

Date: April 25, 2020
Person Contacted: Mr. Jason Stuck (Witness)
NTSB Accident Number: WPR20LA130

Narrative:

In an email, Mr. Stuck Reported the following:

“Around 3:55 pm, Randon Johnson and I (Jason Stuck) heard a helicopter from the back alley of the metal shop AZ Metals and looked up to observe the Huey helicopter around 400 ft agl with a white smoke coming from the rear rotor area heading towards Falcon field. Moments later the rear rotor separated from the helicopter and landed in the dirt lot of the Larry H Miller Ford Dealership. No people were near the rotor upon impact. The helicopter continued turning slightly east and appeared somewhat stable as it descended to about 200 ft agl. It appeared the pilot began to ease the descent and by this time was facing south. Once the pilot began to slow his descent the helicopter began to spin out of control about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile away from the viewpoint and disappeared behind some buildings at about 100 ft agl. The impact was not observed. However, after driving towards the impact we observed the helicopter facing North in Sherwood park on a slope of the drainage basin. Attached is a very approximate path of the helicopter’s observed path.”

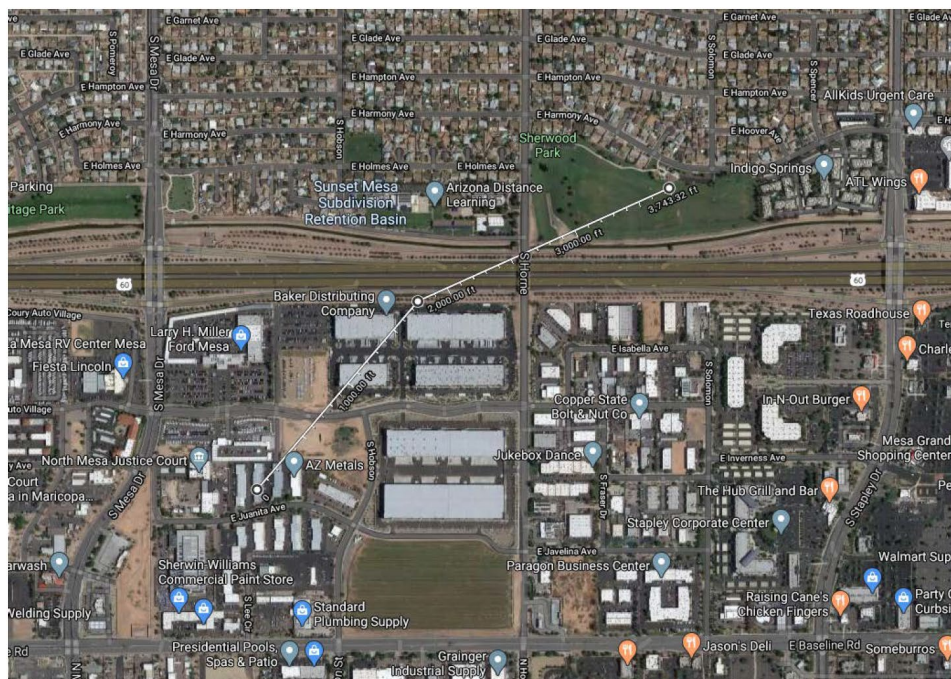


Figure 1: Approximate Path Provided by Mr. Stuck (Google Earth)

END. Submitted by: Samantha Link