



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico	<b>Accident Number:</b>	DEN85LA005
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	October 8, 1984, 08:25 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N47DP
<b>Aircraft:</b>	PICCARD                      AX6W	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Minor
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Serious, 1 Minor
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

PLT STATED HE OBSERVED THE WIRE ABOUT 3 SECS BEFORE COLLISION. ELECTRICAL SHORT CIRCUIT SEVERED LOAD CABLES TO BASKET, WHICH FELL TO THE GROUND, CAUSING PERSONNEL INJURIES. BALLOON ENVELOPE DRIFTED AWAY, FINALLY COMING TO REST 150 MI FROM ACCIDENT SITE.

## Probable Cause and Findings

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

### Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - FINAL APPROACH

#### Findings

1. (C) VISUAL LOOKOUT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) OBJECT - WIRE, TRANSMISSION

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Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	41, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Unknown
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	Balloon	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<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>	None None	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	No	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	369 hours (Total, all aircraft), 369 hours (Total, this make and model)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	PICCARD	<b>Registration:</b>	N47DP
<b>Model/Series:</b>	AX6W AX6W	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Balloon
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	768
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>		<b>Seats:</b>	
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	August 15, 1984 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	1500 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	11 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	0 Unknown
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	4000 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	GEORGE A HESCH	<b>Rated Power:</b>	
<b>Operator:</b>		<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>		<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	ABQ ,5352 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	2 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	07:50 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	145°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Scattered / 9000 ft AGL	<b>Visibility</b>	60 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	8 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	360°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	11°C / 4°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	ALBUQUERQUE , NM	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>		<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	07:30 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class D;Class E

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	ALBUQUERQUE INT'L ABQ	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	
<b>Runway Used:</b>	0	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>		<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Straight-in

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Serious	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Minor
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	1 Minor	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	In-flight
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 Serious, 1 Minor	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	35.060787,-106.619834(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Scott, Arnold
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	JOHN SANDERS; ALBUQUERQUE , NM
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=16589">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=16589</a>

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