



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	RIO RANCHO, New Mexico	Accident Number:	DEN89LA004
Date & Time:	October 4, 1988, 10:05 Local	Registration:	N4098G
Aircraft:	RAVEN RALLY II	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Minor, 1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE COMMERCIAL BALLOON PLT AND ONE PAX WERE PARTICIPATING IN A BALLOON FIESTA. THE ACFT TOOK OFF FROM ALBUQUERQUE, ON A LOCAL FLIGHT IN CALM WINDS. AT ALTITUDE, THE BALLOON ENCOUNTERED SOUTH WINDS THAT CARRIED THE BALLOON TO RIO RANCHO, WHERE A LANDING WAS ATTEMPTED. AT TOUCHDOWN, THE BALLOON BOUNCED BACK INTO THE AIR AND PASSED OVER THE GROUND CREW. THE BALLOON GONDOLA HIT AND KNOCKED DOWN A CINDER BLOCK FENCE. THE GONDOLA THEN HIT A PICTURE WINDOW AND THE WALL OF AN UNOCCUPIED NEW HOME, AND CAME TO REST INSIDE THE HOME.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: HARD LANDING
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - NORMAL

Findings

1. (C) COMPENSATION FOR WIND CONDITIONS - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) FLARE - MISJUDGED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ABORTED

Findings

3. (F) OBJECT - FENCE
4. (F) RECOVERY FROM BOUNCED LANDING - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (F) OBJECT - RESIDENCE

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	43,Female
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Balloon	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	None None	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	353 hours (Total, all aircraft), 180 hours (Total, this make and model), 325 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	RAVEN	Registration:	N4098G
Model/Series:	RALLY II RALLY II	Aircraft Category:	Balloon
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	RV 326
Landing Gear Type:	Hull	Seats:	
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	February 10, 1988 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1480 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	10 Hrs	Engines:	Unknown
Airframe Total Time:	100 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	
Registered Owner:	DEMAREE, LINDA	Rated Power:	
Operator:	DEMAREE, LINDA	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	15 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	0°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	16°C / 5°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	ALBUQUERQUE , NM (NONE)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	(NONE)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	08:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Airport Elevation:	0 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	0 ft / 0 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor, 1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	35.269546,-106.659278(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Collins, Robert
Additional Participating Persons:	DALE HORNER; ALBUQUERQUE , NM
Original Publish Date:	December 3, 1989
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=17622

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The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, “accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person” (Title 49 *Code of Federal Regulations* section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB’s statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 *United States Code* section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 *United States Code* section 1154(b) is available [here](#).