



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	MONROE, Washington	<b>Accident Number:</b>	SEA84LA144
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	June 23, 1984, 20:20 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N1509H
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Balloon Works BARNES AX-8	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	None
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Serious, 6 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

DURING THE BALLON DESCENT, THE PLT SAID HE BRIEFED THE PASSENGERS TO BEND THEIR KNEES & HOLD ONTO SOMETHING INSIDE THE BASKET. ACCORDING TO THE PLT , THE DESCENT BECAME MORE RAPID DUE TO A DOWNDRAFT. THE PASSENGERS WERE AGAIN WARNED TO 'HANG ON' BECAUSE IT WAS GOING TO BE A HARD LANDING. ON IMPACT, SOME OF THE PASSENGERS FELL INTO & ONTO EACH OTHER & ONE SUSTAINED A COMPOUND FRACTURE OF THE LOWER LEFT LEG.

## 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: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

- Findings
1. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DUSK
  2. (C) PLANNING/DECISION - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	41, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Center
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<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>	August 19, 1982
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	Yes	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>			

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Balloon Works	<b>Registration:</b>	N1509H
<b>Model/Series:</b>	BARNES AX-8 BARNES AX-	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Balloon
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Special flight (Special)	<b>Serial Number:</b>	F8-002
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>		<b>Seats:</b>	
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	December 23, 1983 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2020 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	61 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	Unknown
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	249 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	
<b>ELT:</b>	Not installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	AERIAL BALLOON COMPANY	<b>Rated Power:</b>	
<b>Operator:</b>		<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	
<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>	Dusk
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>		<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>	00:05 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Unknown	<b>Visibility</b>	15 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Unknown	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	8 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	0°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>		<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	24°C / -18°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	WOODENVILLE , WA	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>		<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	19:20 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>		<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>	Full stop

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	None
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	1 Serious, 5 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 Serious, 6 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	47.87001,-121.879211(est)

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Stripling, Wallace

**Additional Participating Persons:**

**Original Publish Date:**

**Last Revision Date:**

**Investigation Class:** [Class](#)

**Note:**

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=39945>

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