



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	LOMAN, Idaho	Accident Number:	SEA92LA152
Date & Time:	July 14, 1992, 12:10 Local	Registration:	N62404
Aircraft:	Hiller-Soloy UH12D	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Other work use		

Analysis

WHILE THE HILLER/SOLOY UH12D WAS REPOSITIONING LOGGING PERSONNEL, IT EXPERIENCED A TOTAL LOSS OF POWER. BECAUSE THERE WAS NO SUITABLE LANDING AREA, THE PILOT ELECTED TO ATTEMPT AN AUTOROTATION INTO THE TOP OF THE TREES, WHICH STOOD APPROXIMATELY 50 FEET HIGH. AFTER IMPACTING THE TOP OF THE TREES, THE HELICOPTER FELL TO THE GROUND. AFTER THE CRASH IT WAS FOUND THAT A SHORT IN THE FUEL QUANTITY TRANSMITTER UNIT HAD CAUSED THE FUEL GAUGE TO READ 20 GALLONS, WHEN THE TANK ACTUALLY HAD ABOUT ONE CUP OF FUEL REMAINING.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: FUEL EXHAUSTION. FACTORS INCLUDE A SHORT IN THE FUEL QUANTITY SENSOR/TRANSMITTER, AN INADEQUATE PREFLIGHT, AND A TREE COVERED LANDING AREA.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION
2. (F) FUEL SYSTEM,FUEL QUANTITY FLOAT/SENSOR - SHORTED

3. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: LANDING

Findings

4. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	27, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Helicopter	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	April 15, 1992
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	2180 hours (Total, all aircraft), 115 hours (Total, this make and model), 994 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 68 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 36 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Hiller-Soloy	Registration:	N62404
Model/Series:	UH12D UH12D	Aircraft Category:	Helicopter
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	1033
Landing Gear Type:	Skid	Seats:	3
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	January 2, 2000 AAIP	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3100 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	9 Hrs	Engines:	1 Turbo shaft
Airframe Total Time:	15271 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	ALLISON
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	250-C20B
Registered Owner:	COLUMBIA HELICOPTERS, INC.	Rated Power:	420 Horsepower
Operator:	COLUMBIA HELICOPTERS, INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	CHIL

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	20 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	0°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	21°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	12:08 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:	0 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	0 ft / 0 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced landing

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	44.140304,-115.320404(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Anderson, Orrin
Additional Participating Persons:	TOM WEISGERBER; HILLSBORO , OR
Original Publish Date:	September 14, 1993
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=42853

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