



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	ERIN, Tennessee	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ATL85LA121
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	March 16, 1985, 14:45 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N73DB
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Bell 47G	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Minor, 2 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation		

## Analysis

AFTER A POWER LOSS AT LOW ALT. DURING APPROACH TO TOUCHDOWN,THE PILOT BLED OFF ROTOR RPM ATTEMPTING TO CLEAR POWER LINES ACROSS HIS APPROACH PATH. THIS RESULTED IN A LACK OF ROTOR ENERGY NECESSARY FOR AN AUTOROTAITON LANDING. A HARD LANDING RESULTED. CARBURETOR HEAT WAS NOT USED EXCEPT DURING INITIAL RUNUP AND WEATHER CONDITIONS WERE FAVORABLE FOR CARBURETOR ICE FORMATION.

## Probable Cause and Findings

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

### Findings

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

#### Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - CARBURETOR ICING CONDITIONS
  2. (C) ANTI-ICE/DEICE SYSTEM - NOT USED - PILOT IN COMMAND
  3. (F) LACK OF TOTAL EXPERIENCE IN KIND OF AIRCRAFT - PILOT IN COMMAND
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Occurrence #2: HARD LANDING  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	24, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	Helicopter	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>		<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	July 24, 1984
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	1154 hours (Total, all aircraft), 75 hours (Total, this make and model), 889 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 32 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Bell	<b>Registration:</b>	N73DB
<b>Model/Series:</b>	47G 47G	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Helicopter
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	1277 DBA
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Skid	<b>Seats:</b>	3
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	February 22, 1985 100 hour	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2350 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	345 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	58689 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	FRANKLIN
<b>ELT:</b>	Not installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	6V-335-A
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	THOMAS. LUIPERSBECK	<b>Rated Power:</b>	200 Horsepower
<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>		<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>		<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	20 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	5 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	270°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>		<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	16°C / -18°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>		<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>		<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	14:40 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	0 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	
<b>Runway Used:</b>	0	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	0 ft / 0 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	1 Minor, 1 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 Minor, 2 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	36.310314,-87.699302(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Stiner, Walter
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	GENE BROSHEARS; NASHVILLE , TN
<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=6763">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=6763</a>

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