

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD PILOT/OPERATOR AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORT

This form to be used for reporting civil and public aircraft accidents and incidents

BASIC INFORMATION

Accident/Incident Location

Nearest City/Place: Arcola State: IL

ZIP: 61910 Country: USA

Latitude: 39.71580° N Longitude: 88.35797° W

(Enter in decimal degrees or degrees:minutes:seconds)

Accident/Incident Date/Time

Date: 07/31/2023 Local Time: 1400
mm/dd/yyyy

Time Zone: Central

Collision with Other Aircraft: ☐ Midair ☐ On-ground ☒ None

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

Registration Number: N644ME

Manufacturer: Robinson

Model: R-44 Raven II

Serial Number: 13439

Year of Manufacture: 2013

Amateur-Built: ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes: ☐ Kit/Plans ☐ Original Design Make: _____

- ☐ IFR-Equipped and Certified
☐ Commercial Space Flight
☐ Unmanned Aircraft

Maximum Gross Weight: 2500 lbs

Weight at Time of Accident/Incident: Unknown lbs

Number of Seats: 4 Flight Crew Seats: _____

Cabin Crew Seats: _____ Passenger Seats: _____

Number of Engines: 1

Category of Aircraft

- ☐ Airplane
☐ Balloon
☐ Blimp/Dirigible
☐ Glider
☐ Gyroplane
☒ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift
☐ Rocket
☐ Ultralight
☐ Unknown

Type of Airworthiness Certificate

(Check all that apply)

Standard

- ☒ Normal
☐ Aerobatic
☐ Balloon
☐ Commuter
☐ Transport
☐ Utility

Special

- ☐ Restricted
☐ Limited
☐ Provisional
☐ Special Flight
☐ Experimental
☐ Special Light-Sport
☐ Experimental Light-Sport

- ☐ Certificate of Authorization or Waiver (COA)
☐ None ☐ Unknown

Landing Gear

(Check all that apply)

☐ Retractable

- ☐ Tricycle ☐ Tailwheel
☐ Amphibian ☐ High Skid
☐ Emergency Float ☒ Skid
☐ Float ☐ Ski
☐ Hull ☐ Ski/Wheel
☐ Other Launch/Recovery System
☐ None ☐ Unknown

Engine Type (Select one)

- ☒ Reciprocating ☐ Liquid Rocket
☐ Turbo Shaft ☐ Solid Rocket
☐ Turbo Prop ☐ Hybrid Rocket
☐ Turbo Jet ☐ None
☐ Turbo Fan ☐ Unknown
☐ Electric

Fuel System Type (Reciprocating)

- ☐ Carburetor ☒ Fuel-Injected

Engine	Engine Manufacturer	Engine Model/Series	Manufacturer's Serial Number	Date of Mfg. mm/dd/yyyy	Rated Power ☒ Horsepower or ☐ lbs of Thrust	Total Time (hours)	Time Since: Inspection (hours)	Overhaul (hours)
Eng. 1	Textron Lycoming	IO-540-AE1A5	L-35190-48E	06/21/2012	245	1018.58	917.58	NA
Eng. 2								
Eng. 3								
Eng. 4								

Last Inspection Type

- ☐ 100-Hour ☐ Continuous Airworthiness
☐ AAIP ☐ Conditional Inspection
☒ Annual ☐ Unknown

Date Last Inspection: 05/18/2023
mm/dd/yyyy

Airframe Total Time: 917.58 hrs

hours measured at (Select one)

- ☐ Last Inspection ☐ Time of Accident/Incident

Type of Maintenance Program (Select one)

- ☒ Annual
☐ Conditional (Amateur-built only)
☐ Manufacturer's Inspection Program
☐ Other Approved Inspection Program (AAIP)
☐ Continuous Airworthiness
☐ Other, specify: _____

Description of Fire Extinguishing System

- ☒ None
☐ Specify: _____

Propeller 1

- ☐ Fixed Pitch
☐ Controllable Pitch
☐ Ground Adjustable

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____

Propeller 2

- ☐ Fixed Pitch
☐ Controllable Pitch
☐ Ground Adjustable

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____

ELT Installed: ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes:

ELT Manufacturer: _____

Model or Part No.: _____

TSO No.: ☐ OC91 (121.5 MHz) ☐ OC91a (121.5 MHz)
☐ OC126 (406 MHz)

Was ELT still mounted in aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Was ELT still connected to antenna? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Did ELT Activate? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If activated:

Did ELT Aid in Locating Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If not activated:

- Indicate Reason: ☐ Impact Damage
☐ Fire Damage
☐ Battery Expired/Damaged
☐ Unknown

Additional Equipment (Check all that apply)

- ☐ ADS-B
☐ Airframe Parachute
☐ Angle of Attack Indicator
☐ Autopilot
☐ Data Recorder
☐ Electronic Flight Bag or Handheld Device
☐ Electronic Multifunction Display
☐ Electronic Primary Flight Display
☐ Handheld GPS
☐ Heads Up Display
☐ Onboard Weather
☐ Satellite Tracking Device
☐ Stall Warning System
☐ Video Recording Device
☐ Other, Specify: _____

OWNER/OPERATOR INFORMATION**Registered Aircraft Owner**Name: RAS Aviation LLCCity: MansfieldFractional Ownership Aircraft: ☐ Yes ☒ NoState: IL ZIP: 61854Country: USA**Operator of Aircraft**☒ Same As Registered Owner☒ Same Address as Registered Owner

Name: _____

City: _____

Doing Business As: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Air Carrier/Operator Designator (4 Character Code): _____

Country: _____

Operating Certificates Held

(Check all that apply)

- ☐ None
☐ Flag Carrier Operating Certificate (FAR 121)
☐ Supplemental
☐ Air Cargo
☐ Foreign Air Carriers (FAR 129)
☐ Rotorcraft External Load (FAR 133)
☐ Commuter Air Carrier (FAR 135)
☐ On-Demand Air Taxi (FAR 135)
☐ Commercial Air Tour (FAR 136)
☒ Agricultural Aircraft (FAR 137)
☐ Pilot School (FAR 141)
☐ Certificate of Authorization or Waiver (COA)
☐ Commercial Space Transportation
Experimental Permit
☐ Commercial Space Transportation License
☐ Other Operator of Large Aircraft

Regulation Flight Conducted Under

- ☐ FAR 91 ☐ FAR 129 ☐ FAR 415
☐ FAR 103 ☐ FAR 133 ☐ FAR 431
☐ FAR 121 ☐ FAR 135 ☐ FAR 435
☐ FAR 125 ☒ FAR 137 ☐ FAR 437
- ☐ FAR 91 Special Flight
☐ Non-US, Commercial
☐ Non-US, Non-commercial
- ☐ Public Aircraft (Select one)
☐ Armed Forces
☐ Federal
☐ State
☐ Local
☐ Unknown

Revenue Operation for FAR 121, 125, 129, 135

(Select one for each group)

- ☐ Scheduled or Commuter ☐ Domestic
☐ Non-Scheduled or Air Taxi ☐ International
- ☐ Passenger
☐ Cargo
☐ Mail Contract Only

Purpose of Flight for FAR 91, 103, 133, 137

(Select one)

- ☒ Aerial Application ☐ Firefighting ☐ Unknown
☐ Aerial Observation ☐ Flight Test
☐ Air Drop ☐ Glider Tow
☐ Air Race/Show ☐ Instructional
☐ Banner Tow ☐ Other Work Use
☐ Business ☐ Personal
☐ Executive/Corporate ☐ Positioning
☐ External Load ☐ Skydiving
☐ Ferry

Revenue Sightseeing Flight☐ Yes ☒ No**Air Medical Flight**☐ Yes ☒ No**AIRPORT INFORMATION (Fill in if accident/incident occurred on approach, landing, takeoff, departure, or within 3 miles of an airport)**Airport Name: NA

Distance From Airport Center: _____ sm

Airport Identifier: _____

Direction From Airport: _____ degrees true

Proximity to Airport: ☐ Off Airport/Airstrip ☐ On Airport/Airstrip ☐ N/A

Airport Elevation: _____ ft. msl

Runway Information

Runway ID: _____ (L/R/C) Length: _____ ft Width: _____ ft

Runway/Landing Surface (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Asphalt ☐ Grass/Turf ☐ Macadam ☐ Water
☐ Concrete ☐ Gravel ☐ Metal/Wood
☐ Dirt ☐ Ice ☐ Snow ☐ Unknown

Condition of Runway/Landing Surface (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Dry ☐ Snow-Compacted ☐ Water-Calm
☐ Holes ☐ Snow-Crusted ☐ Water-Choppy
☐ Ice Covered ☐ Snow-Dry ☐ Water-Glassy
☐ Rough ☐ Snow-Wet ☐ Wet
☐ Rubber Deposits ☐ Soft
☐ Slush-Covered ☐ Vegetation ☐ Unknown

Approach/Departure Segment (Select one)

- ☐ Taxi ☐ VFR Departure ☐ On Instrument Approach ☐ Downwind ☐ Low Approach
☐ Takeoff ☐ IFR Departure Procedure/Clearance ☐ Landing ☐ Base ☐ Go Around
☐ Initial Climb ☐ Aborted Landing (after touchdown)
☐ Crosswind ☐ Unknown

IFR Approach (Check all that apply)

- ☐ None
- ☐ ADF/NDB ☐ PAR ☐ MLS ☐ Practice
☐ SDF ☐ Sidestep ☐ LDA ☐ GPS
☐ VOR/TVOR ☐ ILS ☐ ASR
☐ VOR/DME ☐ Localizer Only ☐ Visual
☐ TACAN ☐ LOC-back course ☐ Contact
☐ RNAV ☐ Circling
☐ Unknown

VFR Approach (Check all that apply)

- ☐ None
- ☐ Traffic Pattern ☐ Stop and Go
☐ Straight-In ☐ Touch and Go
☐ Valley/Terrain Following ☐ Simulated Forced Landing
☐ Go Around ☐ Forced Landing
☐ Full Stop ☐ Precautionary Landing
☐ Unknown

"FLIGHT CREWMEMBER 1" INFORMATION

"Flight Crewmember 1" Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident

☒ Pilot
 ☐ Co-Pilot
 ☐ Student Pilot
 ☐ Flight Instructor
 ☐ Check Pilot
 ☐ Flight Engineer
 ☐ Other Flight Crew

"Flight Crewmember 1" was pilot flying ☒ Yes ☐ No

"Flight Crewmember 1" Identification

First Name: John City of Residence: Cornelius
 Middle Initial: M State: OR ZIP: 97113
 Last Name: Kendall Country: USA
 Age at time of Accident/Incident: 48 Date of Birth: mm/dd/yyyy
 Certificate Number: mm/dd/yyyy

Degree of Injury

☐ None
 ☐ Fatal
☐ Minor
 ☐ Unknown
☒ Serious

Seat Occupied

☐ Left
 ☒ Front
 ☐ Unknown
☐ Right
 ☐ Rear
☐ Center
 ☐ Single

Restraint Type

Available

☐ None
☐ Lap only
☒ 3-point
☐ 4-point
☐ 5-point
☐ Unknown

Used

☐ None
☐ Lap only
☒ 3-point
☐ 4-point
☐ 5-point
☐ Unknown

Inflatable Restraints

☒ Not Installed
☐ Installed
☐ Not Deployed
☐ Deployed
☐ Unknown

Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None
 ☐ Flight Instructor
 ☒ Commercial
 ☐ US Military
☐ Private
 ☐ Recreational
 ☐ Airline Transport
 ☐ Foreign
☐ Student
 ☐ Sport
 ☐ Flight Engineer

Principal Occupation

☒ Pilot
☐ Other
☐ Unknown

Medical Certificate

☐ None
 ☐ Class 3
☐ Class 1
 ☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only)
☒ Class 2
 ☐ Unknown

Medical Certificate Validity

☐ Without limitations/waivers
 ☐ Unknown
☒ With limitations/waivers
 ☐ N/A
☐ Special Issuance

Date of Last Medical

03/10/2023
 mm/dd/yyyy

Medical Certificate Limitations

Must use corrective lenses to meet vision standards at all required distances

Medical Certificate Special Issuance

NA

Date of Last Flight Review or Equivalent, Including FAR 121/135 Checks:

04/15/2023
 mm/dd/yyyy

Flight Review Aircraft

Make: Bell
 Model: OH-58A+

Airplane Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

☒ None
☐ Single-Engine Land
☐ Single-Engine Sea
☐ Multiengine Land
☐ Multiengine Sea

Other Aircraft Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None
☐ Airship
☐ Balloon
☐ Glider
☐ Gyroplane
☒ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift

Instrument Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None
☐ Airplane
☒ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift

Instructor Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None
 ☐ Instrument Airplane
☐ Airplane Single-Engine
 ☐ Instrument Helicopter
☐ Airplane Multi-Engine
 ☒ Helicopter
☐ Gyroplane
 ☐ Glider
☐ Powered Lift
 ☐ Sport

Type Ratings

None

Student Endorsements (Include dates)

Flight Time (Enter appropriate number of hours in each box)	All Aircraft	This Make & Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multiengine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
						Actual	Simulated			
Total Time	403	96	0	0	42	0	39	403	0	0
Pilot in Command (PIC)	328	96								
Time as Instructor	0	0								
This Make/Model										
Last 90 Days	72	49								
Last 30 Days	52	49								
Last 24 Hours	7	7								

"FLIGHT CREWMEMBER 2" INFORMATION

"Flight Crewmember 2" Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident

☐ Pilot
 ☐ Co-Pilot
 ☐ Student Pilot
 ☐ Flight Instructor
 ☐ Check Pilot
 ☐ Flight Engineer
 ☐ Other Flight Crew

"Flight Crewmember 2" was pilot flying ☐ Yes ☐ No

"Flight Crewmember 2" Identification

First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____
 Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 Last Name: _____ Country: _____
 Age at time of Accident/Incident: _____ Date of Birth: _____ mm/dd/yyyy
 Certificate Number: _____

Degree of Injury

☐ None ☐ Fatal
☐ Minor ☐ Unknown
☐ Serious

Seat Occupied

☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Unknown
☐ Right ☐ Rear
☐ Center ☐ Single

Restraint Type

Available

☐ None
☐ Lap only
☐ 3-point
☐ 4-point
☐ 5-point
☐ Unknown

Used

☐ None
☐ Lap only
☐ 3-point
☐ 4-point
☐ 5-point
☐ Unknown

Inflatable Restraints

☐ Not Installed
☐ Installed
☐ Not Deployed
☐ Deployed
☐ Unknown

Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Commercial ☐ US Military
☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign
☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ Flight Engineer

Principal Occupation

☐ Pilot
☐ Other
☐ Unknown

Medical Certificate

☐ None ☐ Class 3
☐ Class 1 ☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only)
☐ Class 2 ☐ Unknown

Medical Certificate Validity

☐ Without limitations/waivers ☐ Unknown
☐ With limitations/waivers ☐ N/A
☐ Special Issuance

Date of Last Medical

_____ mm/dd/yyyy

Medical Certificate Limitations

Medical Certificate Special Issuance

Date of Last Flight Review or Equivalent, Including FAR 121/135 Checks:

_____ mm/dd/yyyy

Flight Review Aircraft

Make: _____

Model: _____

Airplane Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None
☐ Single-Engine Land
☐ Single-Engine Sea
☐ Multiengine Land
☐ Multiengine Sea

Other Aircraft Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None
☐ Airship
☐ Balloon
☐ Glider
☐ Gyroplane
☐ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift

Instrument Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None
☐ Airplane
☐ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift

Instructor Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None ☐ Instrument Airplane
☐ Airplane Single-Engine ☐ Instrument Helicopter
☐ Airplane Multi-Engine ☐ Helicopter
☐ Gyroplane ☐ Glider
☐ Powered Lift ☐ Sport

Type Ratings

Student Endorsements (Include dates)

Flight Time (Enter appropriate number of hours in each box)	All Aircraft	This Make & Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multiengine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
						Actual	Simulated			
Total Time										
Pilot in Command (PIC)										
Time as Instructor										
This Make/Model										
Last 90 Days										
Last 30 Days										
Last 24 Hours										

ADDITIONAL FLIGHT CREWMEMBERS (Exclusive of cabin crew, complete the following information)									
Crew Name and Address					Seat Occupied		Injury		
First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____					☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Center ☐ Rear ☐ Right ☐ Single ☐ Unknown		☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown		
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Private ☐ Student ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Recreational ☐ Sport ☐ Commercial ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Flight Engineer ☐ US Military ☐ Foreign					Restraint Type: Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown		
Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No			Total Flight Time at the Time of this Accident/Incident: _____ hrs						
Crew Name and Address					Seat Occupied		Injury		
First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____					☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Center ☐ Rear ☐ Right ☐ Single ☐ Unknown		☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown		
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Private ☐ Student ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Recreational ☐ Sport ☐ Commercial ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Flight Engineer ☐ US Military ☐ Foreign					Restraint Type: Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown		
Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No			Total Flight Time at the Time of this Accident/Incident: _____ hrs						
PASSENGER(S) / OTHER PERSONNEL (Include cabin crew; continue on separate sheet if necessary)									
Name and Address			Seat	Injury	Restraint Type		Inflatable Restraints	Age	
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other			☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years If Under 5, ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown	
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other			☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years If Under 5, ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown	
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other			☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years If Under 5, ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown	
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other			☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years If Under 5, ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown	

FLIGHT ITINERARY INFORMATION

Last Departure Point Airport ID: <u>None</u> City: <u>Tuscola</u> State: <u>IL</u> Country: <u>USA</u>	Time of Departure Time: <u>0854</u> Time Zone: <u>CDT</u>	Destination Airport ID: <u>None</u> City: <u>Multiple farm fields Douglas Cty</u> State: <u>IL</u> Country: <u>USA</u>	Type Flight Plan Filed ☒ None ☐ VFR/IFR ☐ Company VFR ☐ IFR ☐ Military VFR ☐ Unknown ☐ VFR Activated? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
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Type of ATC Clearance/Service (Check all that apply) ☒ None ☐ Special VFR ☐ Special IFR ☐ VFR Flight Following ☐ Cruise ☐ VFR ☐ IFR ☐ VFR On Top ☐ Traffic Advisory ☐ Unknown / NA			
Airspace where the accident/incident occurred (Check all that apply) ☐ Class A ☒ Class G ☐ Military Operations Area (MOA) ☐ Special ☐ Class B ☐ Demo Area ☐ Airport Advisory Area ☐ Air Traffic Control Area ☐ Class C ☐ Warning Area ☐ Jet Training Area ☐ Unknown ☐ Class D ☐ Prohibited Area ☐ TRSA ☐ Class E ☐ Restricted Area ☐ FAR 93			Altitude of In-Flight Occurrence: <u>40</u> ft msl

WEATHER INFORMATION AT THE ACCIDENT/INCIDENT SITE

Source of Pilot Weather Information (Check all that apply) ☐ National Weather Service ☐ Company ☐ Flight Service Station ☐ Military ☐ TV/Radio ☐ Internet ☐ Automated Report ☒ None ☐ Commercial Weather Service (DUATS) ☐ Unknown ☐ On-Board Weather	Weather Observation Facility Facility ID: <u>None</u> Observation Time: _____ Time Zone: _____ Distance from Accident Site: _____ nm Direction from Accident Site: _____ degrees true
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Basic Conditions ☒ VMC ☐ IMC ☐ Unknown	Light Condition ☐ Dawn ☐ Dusk ☐ Dark Night ☐ Unknown ☒ Day ☐ Night ☐ Bright Night
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Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition ☒ Clear ☐ Thin Broken ☐ Few ☐ Thin Overcast ☐ Partial Obscuration ☐ Unknown ☐ Scattered Lowest Cloud Condition Height _____ ft agl	Ceiling ☒ None (Clear) ☐ Obscured ☐ Broken ☐ Indefinite ☐ Overcast ☐ Unknown Ceiling Height _____ ft agl	Temperature: <u>Unk</u> (C) or <u>Unk</u> (F) Dew Point: <u>Unk</u> (C) or <u>Unk</u> (F) Altimeter Setting: <u>30.15</u> in. Hg or _____ MB
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Wind Direction ☐ Variable -or- Direction: <u>145</u> degrees true	Wind Speed ☐ Calm ☒ Light and Variable -or- Speed: _____ kts	Wind Gusts ☒ Not Gusting -or- Speed: _____ kts	Visibility <u>25</u> miles RVR: _____ feet RVV: _____ miles Density Altitude: <u>Unknown</u> ft
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Intensity of Precipitation ☐ Light ☐ Moderate ☐ Heavy ☒ N/A ☐ Unknown	Type of Precipitation (Check all that apply) ☒ None ☐ Drizzle ☐ Freezing Rain ☐ Rain ☐ Ice Pellets ☐ Snow Shower ☐ Snow ☐ Snow Pellets ☐ Ice Pellets Shower ☐ Hail ☐ Snow Grains ☐ Freezing Drizzle ☐ Rain Showers ☐ Ice Crystals	Restriction to Visibility (Check all that apply) ☒ None ☐ Fog ☐ Blowing Dust ☐ Ground Fog ☐ Blowing Sand ☐ Haze ☐ Blowing Snow ☐ Ice Fog ☐ Blowing Spray ☐ Smoke ☐ Dust ☐ Unknown
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Icing Forecast Amount ☒ None ☐ Trace ☐ Light ☐ Moderate ☐ Severe ☐ Unknown Type ☒ N/A ☐ Rime ☐ Clear ☐ Mixed ☐ Unknown	Icing Actual Amount ☒ None ☐ Trace ☐ Light ☐ Moderate ☐ Severe ☐ Unknown Type ☒ N/A ☐ Rime ☐ Clear ☐ Mixed ☐ Unknown	Turbulence Type (Check all that apply) ☒ None ☐ Clear Air ☐ Terrain-Induced ☐ Convective Turbulence Severity ☐ Light ☐ Moderate ☐ Severe ☐ Extreme
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NOTAMs (D and FDC), AIRMETs, SIGMETs, PIREPs in effect at the time of the accident/incident:

NA

DAMAGE TO AIRCRAFT AND OTHER PROPERTY					
Aircraft Damage		Aircraft Fire		Aircraft Explosion	
☐ None	☐ Substantial	☒ None	☐ Both Ground and In-Flight	☒ None	☐ Both Ground and In-Flight
☐ Minor	☒ Destroyed	☐ In-Flight	☐ Fire at Unknown Time	☐ In-Flight	☐ Explosion at Unknown Time
	☐ Unknown	☐ On-Ground	☐ Unknown	☐ On-Ground	☐ Unknown

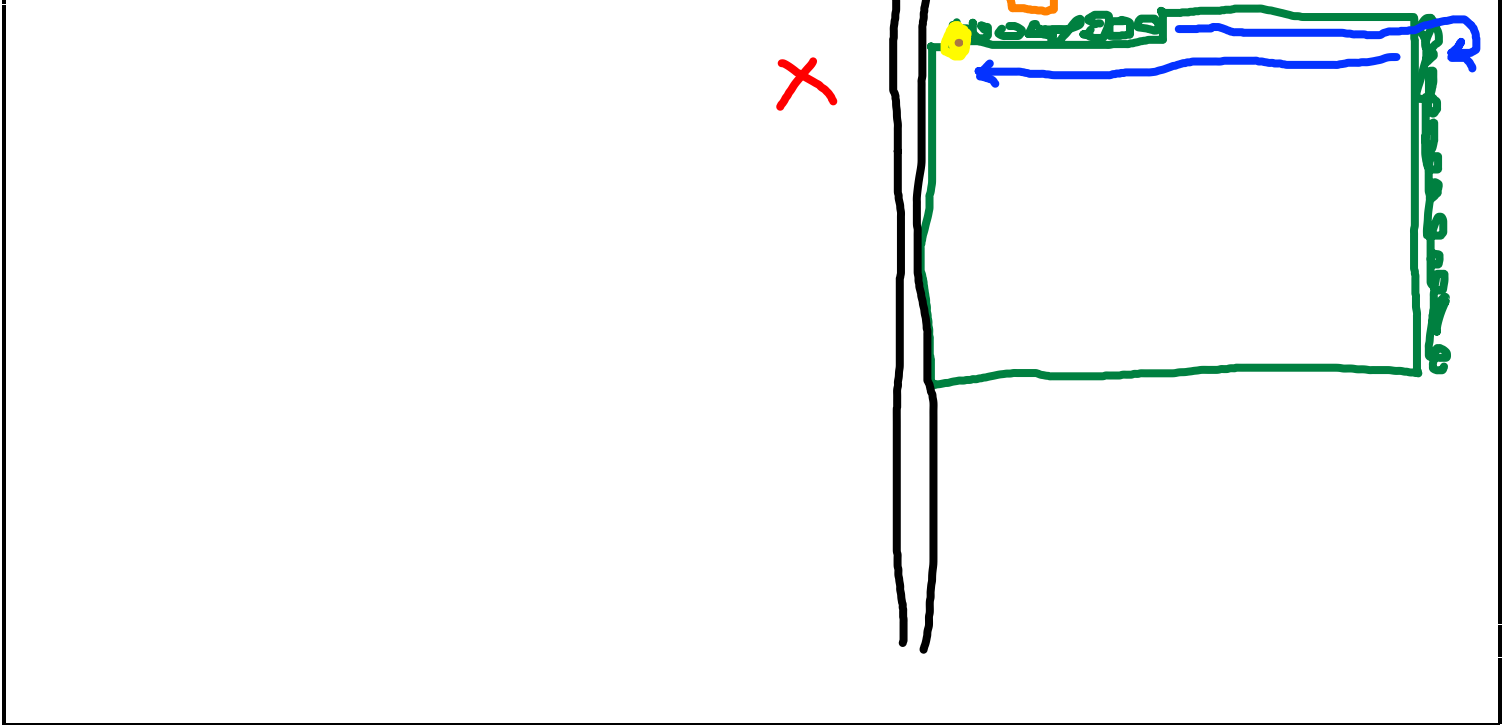
Description of Damage to Aircraft and Other Property <i>(Use additional sheet if necessary)</i>	
Cabin glass broken. General cabin degradation. Collapsed skids. Spray gear broken away and crushed. Main rotor broken on one blade tip. Engine cowling separation. Tail boom bent, but otherwise intact. Tail rotor damage. Vertical and horizontal stabilizer intact.	

Description of Damage to Aircraft and Other Property <i>(Use additional sheet if necessary)</i>	
Cabin glass broken. General cabin degradation. Collapsed skids. Spray gear broken away and crushed. Main rotor broken on one blade tip. Engine cowling separation. Tail boom bent, but otherwise intact. Tail rotor damage. Vertical and horizontal stabilizer intact.	

NARRATIVE HISTORY OF FLIGHT (Please type or print in ink)

Describe what occurred in chronological order, including circumstances leading to and nature of accident/incident. Describe terrain and include wreckage distribution sketch if pertinent. Attach extra sheets if needed. State departure time and location, services obtained, and intended destination. Provide as much detail as possible.

Started spraying soybeans for a farmer in the Douglas County area of Illinois around 0850 the morning on the incident. At the time of incident we had reached just over 1000 acres completed. I had been spraying an adjacent field, diagonal from this field, prior to spraying the field in which the incident occurred. The adjacent field I had been previously spraying had power lines along the road that split the two fields, the one I was previously spraying and the one of the incident. One end of the field, had a small portion that did not make the field square. On this same side, was a line of trees that covered a portion of the field end. Within these trees was a residential home. I started spraying this field by flying eastbound above tree level to spray the portion of the field that extended out from the rest of the field. There was also a tree line on the east side of the field which I had to account for. I finished that extended portion with one spray pass, climbed over the tree line, turned and descended into my next spray lane. I was traveling approximately 60-70 mph, following my AB line which kept me just to the left of the tree line surrounding the house. I looked towards the trees to make sure my right boom and rotor blades would not make impact. After, I looked forward again and saw I was approaching the road. I suddenly thought to myself, are there power lines along this road, because I had remembered that there were on the other side of the trees/house. As I approached the road further, I couldn't confirm if there was or was not, so decided to take a precautionary climb to avoid any possible wires. In this split second decision, I had forgotten about the tree line. I made a collective and cyclic climb to gain enough altitude to clear any wires. At the time I nearly reached the road, I was suddenly jolted and found myself unable to focus on anything outside the helicopter. I felt as if I was spinning. Then I felt as if I was leaning to the right and pointed down towards the ground because I felt the pressure of the seatbelt against my chest. At this time I saw the ground approaching through my pilot side front cockpit glass. I impacted the ground without any control of the helicopter. I did not lose consciousness. I was wearing a DOI certified flight helmet. After impact I quickly assessed the situation, felt pain in my back, but otherwise no presence of blood and I was able to move all my limbs. I realized the engine was no longer running, but electricity was still on, so I shut off the master power switch to prevent an electrical fire. I removed my seat belt and climbed out of the helicopter on the pilot (right-front) side. I thought I had hit power lines I could not see, but when I exited the helicopter, I could see a large limb of a tree on the ground underneath my path of travel and deduced that the I impacted the tree branch with my rotor blades and that it was this that caused me to crash.



RECOMMENDATION (How could this accident/incident have been prevented?)

Operator/Owner Safety Recommendation

I had confirmed before entering this field that there were no power lines, but in my focus to stay away from the trees, and my memory of power lines being on the other side of those trees, which came rushing into my conscious, I briefly panicked in thinking there was a power line there. I should have trusted the fact that I had cleared this field, which would have kept me low and would not have impacted the tree branch, causing the crash.

MECHANICAL MALFUNCTION/FAILURE (If more space is needed, continue on separate sheet)Was there Mechanical Malfunction/Failure? ☐ Yes ☒ No

(If yes, list the name of the part, manufacturer, part no., serial no., and describe the failure.)

**Total Time/Cycles
On Part**

_____ Hours

_____ Cycles

**Time Since This Part
Inspected/Overhauled**

_____ Hours

FUEL & SERVICES INFORMATION**Fuel on Board at Last Takeoff**

(Convert from pounds, as necessary)

Approximately 14 Gallons**Fuel Type**☐ 80/87☐ 115/145☐ Jet B☐ Other, specify _____☒ 100 Low Lead☐ Jet A☐ JP8☐ 100/130☐ Jet A-1☐ Automotive**Other Services, if Any, Prior to Departure**3 quarts of oil added approximately 1330 hours.**EVACUATION OF AIRCRAFT**Was an emergency evacuation of the aircraft performed? ☐ Yes ☒ No**Method of Exit** – Describe how the occupants exited and how many occupants evacuated each locationSelf-extricated via the pilot side door opening. Flying with doors off.**OTHER AIRCRAFT – COLLISION (If air or ground collision occurred, complete this section for other aircraft)****Aircraft Registration Number**NA**Manufacturer:** _____**Model:** _____**Damage to Other Aircraft**☐ Destroyed☐ Minor☐ Substantial☐ None**Registered Owner of Other Aircraft**

Name: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Country: _____

Pilot of Other Aircraft

Name: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Country: _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Please type or print in ink)

Use this space if additional space is needed for any answers.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS COMPLETE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE

Date of this Report

08/02/2023

mm/dd/yyyy

Name of Pilot/Operator: John Kendall

Signature: _____

-- or -- ☒ Check here to electronically sign this document

If a Person Other than Pilot/Operator is Filing Report

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

-- or -- ☐ Check here to electronically sign this document

FOR NTSB USE ONLY

NTSB Accident/Incident No.

CEN23LA341

Reviewed by NTSB Regional Office

CEN

Name of Investigator

RUTT

Date Report Received

8/2/2023