

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: Washington State: NJ

ZIP: 07882 Country: United States

Latitude: 39.709498 Longitude: -74.677678

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

Accident/Incident Date/Time

Date: 12/19/2023 Local Time: 2003
mm/dd/yyyy

Time Zone: Eastern

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

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

Registration Number: N606HD

Manufacturer: American Eurocopter / Airbus

Model: AS350B2 Astar

Serial Number: 7601

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: 4960 lbs

Weight at Time of Accident/Incident: 4438 (est.) lbs

Number of Seats: 4 Flight Crew Seats: 1

Cabin Crew Seats: 1 Passenger Seats: 2

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
☐ Certificate of Authorization or Waiver (COA)
☐ None
- Special**
☐ Restricted
☐ Limited
☐ Provisional
☐ Special Flight
☐ Experimental
☐ Special Light-Sport
☐ Experimental Light-Sport
☐ Unknown

Landing Gear

(Check all that apply)

- ☐ Retractable
☐ Tricycle
☐ Tailwheel
☐ Amphibian
☐ Emergency Float
☐ Float
☐ Hull
☐ Other Launch/Recovery System
☐ None
☐ Unknown

Engine Type (Select one)

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

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	Turbomeca	Arriel 1D1	19544	01/23/2013	681	4783.7	0	1198.1
Eng. 2								
Eng. 3								
Eng. 4								

Last Inspection Type

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

Date Last Inspection: 12/19/2023
mm/dd/yyyy

Airframe Total Time: 7300.1 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: Kannad

Model or Part No.: 406 AF-H

TSO No.: ☐ C91 (121.5 MHz) ☐ C91a (121.5 MHz)
☒ C126 (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: US Helicopters IncFractional Ownership Aircraft: ☐ Yes ☒ NoCity: MarshvilleState: NCZIP: 28103Country: United States**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): USXA

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: _____

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 ☐ Final ☐ 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: Monroe

City of Residence: Glenside

Middle Initial: W

State: PA ZIP: 19038

Last Name: Smith

Country: United States

Age at time of Accident/Incident: 68 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

07/18/2023
mm/dd/yyyy

Medical Certificate Limitations

Must use corrective lens(es) to meet vision standards at all required distances.

Medical Certificate Special Issuance**Date of Last Flight Review or Equivalent, Including FAR 121/135 Checks:**

06/06/2022
mm/dd/yyyy

Flight Review Aircraft

Make: American Eurocopter / Airbus

Model: AS350BA Astar

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		3,584								
Pilot in Command (PIC)		3,584								
Time as Instructor										
This Make/Model					1,155					
Last 90 Days		45			16					
Last 30 Days		14			8					
Last 24 Hours		1			1					

"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: <u>Christopher</u> City of Residence: <u>Oreland</u> Middle Initial: <u>W</u> State: <u>PA</u> ZIP: <u>19075</u> Last Name: <u>Dougherty</u> Country: <u>United States</u>					☐ 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: KPNE
City: Philadelphia
State: PA
Country: United States

Time of Departure

Time: 1923
Time Zone: Eastern

Destination

Airport ID: KPNE
City: Philadelphia
State: PA
Country: United States

Type Flight Plan Filed

☒ None ☐ VFR/IFR
☐ Company VFR ☐ IFR
☐ Military VFR ☐ Unknown
☐ VFR
Activated? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

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:

_____ 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: KACY
Observation Time: 1954
Time Zone: Eastern
Distance from Accident Site: 14 nm
Direction from Accident Site: 354 degrees true

Basic Conditions

☒ VMC
☐ IMC
☐ Unknown

Light Condition

☐ Dawn ☐ Dusk ☐ Dark Night ☐ Unknown
☐ Day ☒ Night ☐ Bright Night

Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition

☒ Clear ☐ Thin Broken
☐ Few ☐ Thin Overcast
☐ Partial Obscuration ☐ Unknown
☐ Scattered

Ceiling

☒ None (Clear) ☐ Obscured
☐ Broken ☐ Indefinite
☐ Overcast ☐ Unknown

Temperature: 2 (C) or _____ (F)

Dew Point: -7 (C) or _____ (F)

Altimeter Setting: 30.28 in. Hg
or _____ MB

Lowest Cloud Condition Height

_____ ft agl

Ceiling Height

_____ ft agl

Wind Direction

☐ Variable

-or-

Direction: 310 degrees true

Wind Speed

☐ Calm
☐ Light and Variable

-or-

Speed: 12 kts

Wind Gusts

☒ Not Gusting

-or-

Speed: _____ kts

Visibility

10SM miles

RVR: _____ feet

RVV: _____ miles

Density Altitude: -1859 ft

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

Icing Forecast

Amount Type
☒ None ☐ N/A
☐ Trace ☐ Rime
☐ Light ☐ Clear
☐ Moderate ☐ Mixed
☐ Severe ☐ Unknown
☐ Unknown

Icing Actual

Amount Type
☒ None ☐ N/A
☐ Trace ☐ Rime
☐ Light ☐ Clear
☐ Moderate ☐ Mixed
☐ Severe ☐ Unknown
☐ Unknown

Turbulence

Type (Check all that apply) Severity
☒ None ☐ Light
☐ Clear Air ☐ Moderate
☐ Terrain-Induced ☐ Severe
☐ Convective Turbulence ☐ Extreme

NOTAMs (D and FDC), AIRMETs, SIGMETs, PIREPs in effect at the time of the accident/incident:

DAMAGE TO AIRCRAFT AND OTHER PROPERTY**Aircraft Damage**

- ☐ None ☐ Substantial
☐ Minor ☒ Destroyed
 ☐ Unknown

Aircraft Fire

- ☐ None ☐ Both Ground and In-Flight
☐ In-Flight ☐ Fire at Unknown Time
☒ On-Ground ☐ Unknown

Aircraft Explosion

- ☒ None ☐ Both Ground and In-Flight
☐ In-Flight ☐ Explosion at Unknown Time
☐ On-Ground ☐ Unknown

Description of Damage to Aircraft and Other Property (Use additional sheet if necessary)

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.

On December 19th, 2023 Pilot Monroe Smith and Camera Operator Christopher Dougherty were the on-duty flight crew of N606HD (a 2013 AS350B2 helicopter LOA callsign "Chopper 6" owned and operated by US Helicopters, Inc) assigned to TV/news station WPVI 6ABC as an aerial electronic news gathering (ENG) asset. This base only conducts Part 91 operations and neither Smith nor the aircraft are certified under US Helicopters Inc's Part 135 certificate.

Near 1923 hours, Smith (PIC occupying the front right seat) and Dougherty (camera operator occupying the left rear seat) departed Northeast Philadelphia Airport (KPNE) after being dispatched by the news station assignment desk to a scene 44 NM to the South/Southeast (7nm East of Atlantic City) in the Smithville New Jersey area. The standard fuel load used by pilots of N606HD is approximately 115 gallons (782 lbs.) of Jet-A. This leads to the belief the estimated takeoff weight of the aircraft with crew would have been roughly 4683 lbs. (MGW is 4960). 25 gallons of Jet-A was fueled by Atlantic Aviation (KPNE FBO) after the crew returned from a flight prior to the accident flight.

KPNE ASOS reported the prevailing conditions at 1854 hours with winds 340 degrees at 5 kts, 10sm visibility, and clear skies. The temperature was 1c, dewpoint was -6c, and the altimeter setting was 30.26.

The crew arrived on scene approximately 20 minutes later, and Smith began orbiting scene while Dougherty collected video footage for the news station. After about 10 minutes on scene, the news assignment desk cleared the crew to return to base (KPNE) via radio.

At around 2200 hours, US Helicopter personnel were notified by the news station assignment desk that they had tried to reach the crew for another assignment, but were unable to contact either Smith or Dougherty by phone. After confirming the aircraft had not returned to KPNE, actions were taken to obtain last location information and last contact time frame. State and local authorities were contacted with the current last contact information, flight route information, and possible location information obtained from internet-based ADS-B tracking platforms, along with contacting the FAA, specifically the New York ARTCC, to initiate an overdue/missing aircraft report. The ADS-B tracking platforms showed the aircraft's last location roughly 4nm East/Northeast of Hammonton Municipal Airport (N81).

KACY ASOS reported the prevailing conditions at 1954 hours with winds 310 degrees at 12 kts, 10sm visibility, and clear skies. The temperature was 2c, dewpoint was -7c, and the altimeter setting was 30.28.

At approximately 0013 hours on December 20th 2023, US Helicopter leadership was notified that N606HD had been located in a densely wooded area of the Wharton State Forest near Washington New Jersey. The aircraft had impacted the ground and both crew members had been killed.

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

Operator/Owner Safety Recommendation

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)

115 (est.) _____ Gallons

Fuel Type

☐ 80/87☐ 100 Low Lead☐ 100/130☐ 115/145☒ Jet A☐ Jet A-1☐ Jet B☐ JP8☐ Automotive☐ Other, specify _____

Other Services, if Any, Prior to Departure

EVACUATION OF AIRCRAFTWas an emergency evacuation of the aircraft performed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Method of Exit – Describe how the occupants exited and how many occupants evacuated each location

OTHER AIRCRAFT – COLLISION (If air or ground collision occurred, complete this section for other aircraft)

Aircraft Registration Number

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____

Damage to Other Aircraft

☐ Destroyed☐ Substantial☐ Minor☐ 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

12/22/2023

mm/dd/yyyy

Name of Pilot/Operator: _____

Signature: _____

-- or -- ☐ Check here to electronically sign this document**If a Person Other than Pilot/Operator is Filing Report**

Name: David O. Collins II

Title: Chief Pilot, US Helicopters Inc

Signature: _____

-- or -- ☐ Check here to electronically sign this document**FOR NTSB USE ONLY**

NTSB Accident/Incident No.

ERA24FA069

Reviewed by NTSB Regional Office

AS-ERA

Name of Investigator

T.Gunther

Date Report Received

12/22/2023