

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: San Angelo State: Texas

ZIP: 76904 Country: USA

Latitude: 31.36 Longitude: 100.5

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

Accident/Incident Date/Time

Date: 08/02/2017 Local Time: 6:35
mm/dd/yyyy

Time Zone: CDT

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

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

Registration Number: N38HT

Manufacturer: Air Tractor

Model: AT402B

Serial Number: 402B-1011

Year of Manufacture: 1997

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

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

Maximum Gross Weight: 9170 (Restricted) lbs

Weight at Time of Accident/Incident: 6764 lbs

Number of Seats: 2 Flight Crew Seats: 1

Cabin Crew Seats: 0 Passenger Seats: 1

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	Pratt and Whitney	T74-GP-702 (PT6A-27)	PCE-40004	01/01/1968	680	2988.3	510.3	2988.3
Eng. 2								
Eng. 3								
Eng. 4								

Last Inspection Type

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

Date Last Inspection: 11/12/2016
mm/dd/yyyy

Airframe Total Time: 543.3 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: Hartzell

Model: HC-B3TN-3D

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: United States Dept. of Agriculture Agricucltral Research ServiceCity: College StationFractional Ownership Aircraft: ☐ Yes ☒ NoState: Texas ZIP: 77845Country: 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: San Angelo Mathis Field

Distance From Airport Center: _____ sm

Airport Identifier: KSJT

Direction From Airport: _____ degrees true

Proximity to Airport: ☐ Off Airport/Airstrip ☒ On Airport/Airstrip ☐ N/AAirport Elevation: 1918 ft. msl**Runway Information**Runway ID: 36 (L/R/C) Length: 8049 ft Width: 150 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: Lee City of Residence: Bryan
 Middle Initial: M State: Texas ZIP: 77807
 Last Name: Denham Country: USA
 Age at time of Accident/Incident: 64 Date of Birth: [REDACTED] mm/dd/yyyy
 Certificate Number: [REDACTED]

Degree of Injury

☒ None
 ☐ Fatal
☐ Minor
 ☐ Unknown
☐ Serious

Seat Occupied

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

Restraint Type

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

07/06/2017
 mm/dd/yyyy

Medical Certificate Limitations

Must wear corrective lenses. Not valid for any other class after 06/30/2017

Medical Certificate Special Issuance

Diabetes mellitus, P.I. #0588313

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

06/30/2016
 mm/dd/yyyy

Flight Review Aircraft

Make: Robinson

Model: R-44

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
☒ Airplane Single-Engine
☒ Airplane Multi-Engine
☐ Gyroplane
☐ Powered Lift
☒ Instrument Airplane
☐ Instrument Helicopter
☐ Helicopter
☒ Glider
☐ 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	6,960	240	5,722	940	539	79	26	159	103	0
Pilot in Command (PIC)	6,682	240	4,782	940	539	79	0	159	103	0
Time as Instructor	1,672	0	1,373	276	100	20	0	0	23	0
This Make/Model					0	0	0			
Last 90 Days	88	29	85	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
Last 30 Days	33	3	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Last 24 Hours	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

“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 First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____				Seat Occupied ☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Front ☐ Rear ☐ Single ☐ Unknown		Injury ☐ 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 First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____				Seat Occupied ☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Front ☐ Rear ☐ Single ☐ Unknown		Injury ☐ 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
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
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
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
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

FLIGHT ITINERARY INFORMATION

Last Departure Point Airport ID: <u>KSJT</u> City: <u>San Angelo</u> State: <u>Texas</u> Country: <u>USA</u>	Time of Departure Time: <u>4:25</u> Time Zone: <u>CDT</u>	Destination Airport ID: <u>KSJT</u> City: <u>San Angelo</u> State: <u>Texas</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	Altitude of In-Flight Occurrence: _____ ft msl
☐ 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		

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: KSJT
 Observation Time: 20:51
 Time Zone: GMT
 Distance from Accident Site: 0 nm
 Direction from Accident Site: _____ 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

Lowest Cloud Condition Height

_____ ft agl

Ceiling

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

Ceiling Height

8500 ft agl

Temperature: 28 (C) or _____ (F)

Dew Point: 18 (C) or _____ (F)

Altimeter Setting: 3007 in. Hg
 or _____ MB

Wind Direction

☐ Variable

-or-
 Direction: 040 degrees true

Wind Speed

☐ Calm
☐ Light and Variable

-or-
 Speed: 14 kts

Wind Gusts

☒ Not Gusting

-or-
 Speed: _____ kts

Visibility 10 miles

RVR: _____ feet

RVV: _____ miles

Density Altitude: _____ 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:

San Angelo VORTAC out of service.

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)*

Left landing gear broke off due to side load, left wing settled to the ground. Propeller struck the asphalt.

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.

This was a research flight related to weather modification. The aircraft had a spray system that put an electrical charge on the water as it exited the spray boom. There were researchers on the ground collecting real time data from the aircraft. The flight began with 350 gallons (400 gallon capacity) of water in the hopper and the intent was to find uplifting conditions (thermals) to spray the water. Uplifting conditions for this flight which had lasted 2.0 hours were not good so I decided to return to the airport. The hopper still had 281 gallons of water which weighed 2250 pounds. I took this into consideration during the approach knowing that the aircraft was heavier than my normal landings with an empty hopper. The remaining fuel on board was approximately 50 gallons. Beginning fuel was 164 gallons.

I used 100 mph as my approach speed and set 10 degrees flaps. There was a right crosswind of about 30 degrees and approximately 10 kts. so I had right wing down and left rudder to keep the fuselage straight with the runway. As I flared for the landing I leveled the wings, reduced power to idle, and touched down in a three-point attitude in a full stall with the fuselage straight down the runway. The touch down was right at the end of the threshold and beginning of the runway. The landing was harder than usual, did not bounce and continued straight down the runway for about 500 feet. The aircraft then began an un-commanded slow turn to the right. I applied heavy left braking and left rudder to no effect. The turn continued to the point where it entered a classic ground loop with the fuselage making a reversal less than 180 degrees. The side load broke the left landing gear off and the left wing settled to the ground and the prop hit the asphalt. The tailwheel did not break off.

Departure time was 4:25 CDT.

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

Operator/Owner Safety Recommendation

My initial reaction to the cause of the ground loop was that the water in the hopper shifted during the wing leveling and hard touchdown and caused a side moment. In conversation with experienced agriculture pilots they have suggested that a common occurrence is that the landing gear attach bolts break or stretch during a hard landing and that one or both of the landing gears becomes loose and no longer track in a straight direction. Anecdotally they have said they replace landing gear bolts at 600 hours which is an average season of use annually. Our aircraft had 543 hours total time over a 20 year period, however there is no landing gear bolt AD for the AT-402B. The gear bolts passed inspection during the previous annual inspection.

The remedy for our research operation is to dump remaining water at a safe location to reduce the landing weight of the aircraft. If a heavy landing is needed, carrying a small amount of power through the flare would enable a softer touchdown. When the throttle is reduced to the stop, the propeller goes into a slight "beta" range which increases drag and descent rate. This also contributed to the harder landing in this incident.

I will be checking with the mechanics during the repair and inspection to find out if they have any opinion about what happened to the landing gear at the attach points.

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)

164 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****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 location

Exited the aircraft after cutting off engine and turning off fuel.

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☐ 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.

Weather information was from information Uniform at 20:51 GMT taken at taxi. I do not have the landing weather but it was similar. I arrived at the airport approximately 11:00 am CDT.

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

Date of this Report

mm/dd/yyyy

Name of Pilot/Operator: Lee Morgan Denham

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.
GAA17CA469

Reviewed by NTSB Regional Office
GAA

Name of Investigator
JACKIE VANOVER

Date Report Received
08/28/2017