



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	PERRIS, CA	Accident Number:	LAX88FA241
Date & Time:	06/30/1988, 1300 PDT	Registration:	N9991F
Aircraft:	HELIO HST-550A	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Skydiving		

Analysis

AFTER DROPPING SKYDIVERS THE PILOT ENTERED A DESCENT TO RETURN TO THE AIRPORT FOR ANOTHER LOAD OF JUMPERS. HE WAS RECEIVING RADAR ADVISORIES DURING THE DROP FROM A TRACON CONTROLLER. AS THE AIRCRAFT DESCENDED BELOW 4,000 FEET MSL THE CONTROLLER TERMINATED THE RADAR ADVISORY SERVICE. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONTROLLER DISCONTINUED THE SERVICE HE ASKED THE PILOT TO CHECK FOR A STUCK MICROPHONE SWITCH. THE AIRCRAFT CONTINUED ITS DESCENT AND COLLIDED WITH A CAMPING TRAILER AND BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN AN EXTREME NOSE LOW ATTITUDE. THE ELEVATOR TRIM WAS FOUND IN THE FULL NOSE DOWN POSITION. NO OTHER MALFUNCTIONS WERE FOUND.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: FAILURE OF THE ELECTRICAL STABILIZER TRIM CONTROL THAT RESULTED IN AN UNCOMMANDED FULL NOSE DOWN ELEVATOR TRIM COMMAND.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - NORMAL

Findings

1. (C) FLT CONTROL SYST,STABILATOR TRIM - FAILURE,TOTAL
2. (C) ELEVATOR TRIM - UNCONTROLLED

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

3. (F) OBJECT - VEHICLE
4. (F) OBJECT - BUILDING(NONRESIDENTIAL)

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Commercial	Age:	48, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	11/20/1988
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	4500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 4500 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	HELIO	Registration:	N9991F
Model/Series:	HST-550A HST-550A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal; Utility	Serial Number:	004
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	10
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	06/30/1988, 100 Hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	5800 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	25 Hours	Engines:	1 Turbo Prop
Airframe Total Time:	2100 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	P&W
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	PT-6A-27
Registered Owner:	PERRY, JAMES D	Rated Power:	680 hp
Operator:	PERRIS VALLEY SKYDIVING INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	RIV, 1538 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	7 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1255 PDT	Direction from Accident Site:	328°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 4000 ft agl	Visibility	3 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	300°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	33° C / 15° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	PERRIS, CA (L65)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1230 PDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	JAMES A WALL	Report Date:	07/09/1990
Additional Participating Persons:	ROGER W BROWNLOW; RIVERSIDE, CA TARA PERRY; KENT, WA JAMES D PERRY; KENT, WA		
Publish Date:	10/17/2016		
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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