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25X1A	B C. H-43B, 58-1	847.		
25X1A	D. 1129TH SPAC	TRON, DET 1.	LOT. , FIREFIGHTER. FIREFIGHTER,	
25X1A	ACTING DROPMAST	P	ARAMEDIC.	
	F. NONE.			
	G. NO PASSENGE	RS.	GR CI	up n

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PAGE TWO

- H. TOTAL PLT HRS: 2024. TOTAL FIRST PLT (P&IP): 1449, PLT HRS IN LAST 30 DAYS, 43 HRS. LAST 60 DAYS: 72 HRS. LAST 90 DAYS: 98 HRS.
- I. N/A.
- J. LANDING APPROACH.
- START AND TAKEOFF WERE CONSIDERED NORMAL. THE MSN ENTAILED POSITIONING OF CODED REFERENCE MARKERS AT SPECIFIED DISTANCES AND HEADINGS FROM THE EG&G TEST COMPLEX. THESE MARKERS WERE TO BE USED AS RECOVERY AIDS TO EXPEDITE SEARCH AND RECOVERY OF TEST ITEMS NORM-ALLY DROPPED BY PARACHUTE (C-47) OVER A LARGE AREA WITH FEW, IF ANY, NATURAL LANDMARKS. IT WAS CONSIDERED NECESSARY THAT POSITIONING OF THESE BE DONE BY RADAR ASSISTANCE (EG&G). DUE TO GROUND CLUTTER, IT WAS NECESSARY THAT THE ACFT CLIMB TO 5500 FEET MSL FOR POSITIVE RADAR IDENTIFICATION. IN ORDER TO ACCURATELY POSITION THESE MARKERS, IT WAS NECESSARY TO MAKE STEEP APPROACHES TO DROP LOCATIONS. FINAL DROP OF THESE MARKERS WAS ACCOMPLISHED FROM A LOW HOVER (5 FT) WITH THE DROPMASTER SECURED IN A "GUNNER'S BELT". WIND CONDITIONS WERE ESTI-MATED FROM DRIFT TO BE OUT OF A NORTHERLY DIRECTION AND LESS THAN 10 KTS. TWO (2) SUCCESSFUL APPROACHES AND DELIVERIES WERE ACCOMPLESHED WITH NO DIFFICULTY. OBSERVED POWER TO HOVER WAS APPROXIMATELY 25 PSI TORQUE WITH 10 PSI RESERVE. THE THIRD APPROACH WAS NORMAL TO A POINT 150 TO 200 FEET ABOVE GROUND. AT THIS POINT, DECREASE IN THE RATE OF DESCENT WAS ATTEMPTED THROUGH AN INCREASE OF POWER. IT WAS NOTED THAT THE RATE OF DESCENT CONTINUED TO INCREASE INSTEAD OF DECREASE. A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF THIS DIFFICULTY THE PLT ELECTED TO ABORT THE APPROACH BY LOWERING THE NOSE AND FURTHER INCREASING POWER THUS IN-Approved For Release 2003/11/21 : CIA-RDP71B00590R000100050037-1

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CREASING AIRSPEED FROM AN INDICATED 20 KTS. WHILE INITIATING THE ABORT, THE RATE OF DESCENT BECAME MORE INTENSE (ESTIMATED 1009 TO 2000 FEET PER MINUTE). MAXIMUM POWER WAS APPLIED AT THIS POINT AND THE ENGINE RESPONDED NORMALLY. WHEN IT BECAME APPARENT THAT AN ABORT COULD NOT BE ACCOMPLISHED OR THE RATE OF DESCENT DECREASED, THE NOSE OF THE ACFT WAS RAISED TO IMPACT WITH THE GROUND IN A LEVEL ATTITUDE AND ZERO GROUND SPEED. THIS ACTION WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE DAMAGE AND POSSIBLE CREW INJURY. AFTER AN ABRUPT IMPACT WITH THE GROUND, THE ACFT PITCHED SHARPLY NOSE DOWN AND TO THE RIGHT. POSITIVE CONTROL EFFECTIVENESS WAS REGAINED PRIOR TO THE ROTOR BLADES MAKING CONTACT WITH THE GROUND. A SAFE POSITION WAS THEN ATTAINED WHERE AN ASSESSMENT OF INJURY TO THE CREW AND DAMAGE TO THE AIRCRAFT WAS ACCOMPLISHED. THE ACFT WAS RETURNED TO BASE WHERE A RECOVERY PLATFORM HAD TO BE CONSTRUCT-ED BY USING MATTRESSES AND WOODEN PALLETS. AS MANY OF THE CREW AS POSSIBLE WERE DISEMBARKED PRIOR TO ATTEMPTING TO LAND. THE ACFT WAS THEN LANDED WITHOUT FURTHER INCIDENT. WHILE THE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AFTER IMPACT WAS BEING ACCOMPLISHED, THE CREW MEMBER SEATED IN THE CO-PLT'S SEAT MENTIONED NOTICING A DUST DEVIL LOCATED JUST BEHIND AND TO THE LEFT OF THE DUST CAUSED BY THE IMPACT. AT NO TIME PRIOR TO THIS WERE DUSTDEVILS OBSERVED IN THE IMMEDIATE WORKING AREA. DAMAGE TO ACFT AS FOLLOWS:

RH AUX GEAR:

FORK BROKEN.

BEARPAW BUNGEE BOLT BENT.

BEARPAW BENT AND DEEP SCRATCHES.

BUNGEE SUPPORT HAS PULLED RIVET.

LH AUX GEAR Approved For Release 2003/11/21 : CIA-RDP71B00590R000100050037-1

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FFFORK SPRUNG.

LH MAIN GEAR:

STRUT COLLAPSED (PISTON FAILURE).

STRUT MOUNT TORN FROM FUSELAGE.

SKIN TORN OUT AT MOUNT AND STRINGERS AND REINFORCING MATERIAL BENT, BROKEN AND CRACKED.

LEG ASSEMBLY BENT.

BEARPAW BUNGEE BOLT BENT SLIGHTLY.

RH MAIN GEAR :

STRUT COLLAPSED (PISTON FAILURE)

LINK AT STRUT MOUNT BROKEN.

MOUNT PARTIALLY SHEARED.

SKIN AT, AND ABOVE, MOUNT BUCKLED.

MAIN VERTICAL STRINGER BUCKLED.

DOOR TRACK BENT AT MOUNT AREA (REPLACING APPROX 1 1/2 FT).

LEG ASSEMBLY BENT.

BRAKE LINE BROKEN AT FITTING.

STRINGER AND SKIN TORN WHERE LANDING GEAR LEG CONTACT FUSELAGE.

FUSELAGE GENERAL:

BOTTOM AFT RIGHT HAND SKIN AND STRINGERS BADLY DENTED, SCRAPED AND BROKEN AFT OF FUEL SUMP AREA.

SMALL KINK AND OIL CANNING IN RIGHT HAND TAILEDOM ASSEMBLY JUST OVER CLAMSHELL DOOR AREA.

HOPIZONTAL STABILIZER BOWED SLIGHTLY.

ESTIMATED MANHOURS TO REPAIR: / 3

396 HRS.

This makes it a incident

L. NONE.

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M. NONE.

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N. UNIT SUPPORT - POSITIONING OF MARKERS TO EXPEDITE RECOVERY OF EGGG EQUIPMENT NORMALLY DROPPED IN THIS AREA.

O. N/A.

P. SKY CONDITION - CLEAR.

VISIBILITY - 15 MILES.

TEMPERATURE / DEW PT - 76/40.

WIND - CALM.

ALTIMETER - 30.00

Q. THE PRIMARY CAUSE FACTOR OF THIS INCIDENT WAS WEATHER. LIFT WAS LOST TEMPORARILY BECAUSE OF AIR DISTURBANCE. IT IS FURTHER CONCLUDED THAT THE ACFT WAS AT THE VERY EDGE OF A "DUSTDEVIL" THUS RECEIVING A DOWNDRAFT EFFECT.

R. N/A.

- S. ACTION TAKEN TO PREVENT RECURRENCE:
 - 1. BRIEF ALL AIRCREWS ON THIS INCIDENT.
- 2. INCLUDE AS A TOPIC OF DISCUSSION FOR THE NEXT FLYING SAFETY MEETING "VORTICES" (DUST DEVILS). THIS DISCUSSION WILL INCLUDE ALL ASPECTS, ENCOUNTERS, POSSIBLE EFFECTS AND EVASIVE ACTIONS POSSIBLE.
- 3. REQUEST INSTALLATION OF AN/APX-25 SIF/IFF TRANSPONDER EQUIPMENT. THIS WILL PROVIDE A LOW ALTITUDE CAPABILITY FOR RADAR ACQUISITION, THUS LOWERING THE WORKING ALTITUDE AND PERMITTING FASTER AND MORE SHALLOW APPROACHES IN THE H-43B ACFT.
- T. NONE.
- U. NO TOR REQUEST. NO UR SUBMITTED.
- V. NO VIOLATION.

Waterial

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25X1	IN 62226 SECRET PAGE SIX
	W. N/A.
	X. N/A. 25X1A
25X1A	Y. FLYING SAFETY OFFICER,
25X1A	
	COMMANDER'S REMARKS: PHOTOGRAPHS OF DAMAGED AREAS WILL BE POUCHED
	SEPARATELY
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