

MISHAP REPORT
(FINAL)

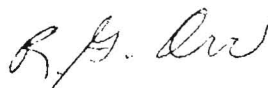
"A" Co. 159th BN.
CH47C S/N 74-22290
17 July 1980
29 Palms, Calif.

CLASS A AIRCRAFT MISHAP

The aircraft was climbing out with an intended route that would take the aircraft thru a 8500' A.S.L. mountain pass. At approximately 7500' A.S.L. and 200' A.G.L. the pilot elected to make a 180° turn. The aircraft reportedly started to lose altitude and the rotors began to lose R.P.M. A running landing was attempted on very rough wooded terrain. At touchdown (7200' A.S.L.) the aircraft impacted a large tree and the airframe separated at Station 120. The cabin and aft section of fuselage rolled/slid down a hill for a distance of several hundred feet. When it came to rest, a fire erupted and the entire section was destroyed.

Of the four (4) crewmen on board, one (1) was fatally injured, one (1) critical injuries, one (1) major injuries and one (1) minor injuries released back to duty.

The U.S.A. Safety Center declined technical assistance from Boeing Vertol. The USASC team has completed the field investigation and returned to Ft. Rucker. At this time no indication has been received of an aircraft problem and no aircraft parts are scheduled to be returned to the depot for engineering investigation.



R. G. Orr

RGO:jh
P31-63
X-7937