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Current Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) Deficiencies and Potential Improvements Utilizing TSO-C91a ELTs

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LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- Excerpt from the House of Representatives, 1st Session, Report 99-212. Department of Housing and Urban Development Independent Agencies Appropriation Bill, 1986, Page 44.
- 2. NTSB form 6120.4, Sup. A, Page 1, Block 56, ELT Reason for Noneffectiveness/Failure.
- 3. FAA ELT Field Test Procedure/Data Sheet.
- 4. Alaskan ELT Survey, Letter from Alaskan Region FAA Office to HQ ARRS, Scott AFB, Illinois, dated December 30, 1987.

Current Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) Deficiencies and Potential Improvements Utilizing TSO-C91a ELTs

I. INTRODUCTION

- The Interagency Committee for Search and Rescue (ICSAR) and the Search and Rescue (SAR) community has long been aware of the current Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) problems.
- In a letter to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), ICSAR stated the problem as a 2/3 failure rate and 97% false alarm rate.

The Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) has proven to be an effective life saving device for the aviation community; however, two problems have plagued its operational effectiveness since its inception. First, ELTs often fail to operate when involved in an aircraft accident and second, they often operate when they are not supposed to, creating false alarms. The impact of these two problems is far reaching. Its failure to operate when it should causes lives to be lost unnecessarily which in turn erodes public confidence in the system as a life saving device. Its tendency to transmit false alarms has also created a "cry wolf" syndrome. Aircraft owners resent having to install and maintain a device which is not reliable and the rescue community is forced to deal with hundreds of false alarms annually.

• Congress, in a 1986 appropriations bill, requested the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to assist the FAA in the implementation of a second generation ELT.

Recognizing the need to improve ELT performance, Congress in 1986 (Department of Housing and Urban Development-Independent Agencies Appropriation Bill) urged that improvements be addressed (Attachment 1). The bill stated, "It is not satisfactory that units with a false alarm rate of over 97% and a non-activation rate of 70% continue to be mandated by the federal government when an improved technical standard has been developed and can be provided for effective satellite monitoring. It is recognized that NASA cannot initiate the necessary administrative action to mandate improved transmitters, but as the developer of the satellite system, NASA should urge the FAA to proceed and should make available technical expertise to support any FAA initiative in this area."

- Objectives of NASA Analysis:
 - Validate the problem
 - Document the specific causes of the problem
 - Estimate improvements from C91a
 - Estimate the benefits
 - Determine the need for and benefits from an improved inspection and maintenance program.

NASA, in response to the Congressional report, offered assistance to the FAA, which was in the process of developing a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) concerning ELT improvements. Although everyone recognized that problems existed with the current ELTs in the field, quantification of the problems was lacking. Recognizing that specific data would be necessary to support their rule making effort, the FAA, in response to the NASA offer of assistance, asked that NASA conduct an analysis of ELT problems. The scope of the analysis included validation of the problem, quantification of the specific causes of the ELT's failure to operate when it should, causes of false alarms, an estimate of the improvement in performance to be expected from implementation of TSO-C91a (DO-183) and the benefits to be derived as well as the need for an improved inspection and maintenance program. The data used in the analysis is contained in Appendix A.

II. VALIDATION OF FAILURE RATES AND IDENTIFICATION OF SPECIFIC CAUSES

A. Validation of Failure Rate from NTSB Data Analysis

• Both the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Annual Reviews of Aircraft Accident Data for General Aviation and the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) Annual Reports substantiate, what was generally believed, that approximately 75% of all ELTs involved in general aviation accidents do not operate.

Data from the NTSB data base that originated from the "Factual Report Aviation Accident/Incident" (NTSB Form 6120.4) for calendar years 1983 through 1987 were analyzed. Of the 12,744 accident reports during this period, only 3270 contained information concerning the ELT. In these 3,270 accident reports that included ELT data, the ELTs operated 819 (25%) times and did not operate 2,451 (75%) times. (See Table 1).

Table 1

NTSB Data from 1983 through 1987 Showing the Number and Percentage of ELTs That Did Not Operate During Crashes Involving General Aviation Aircraft

	# OF ACCIDENT REPORTS * 1983-1987	PERCENT
OPERATED	819	25%
DID NOT OPERATE	2451	75%
TOTAL REPORTS	3270	100%

* Accident reports where reasons for ELT Noneffectiveness/Failure were available (Item 56 in Supplement A)

B. Validation of Failure Rate from AFRCC Data Analysis

Further validation of the ELTs failure to operate when in aircraft accidents was obtained from the AFRCC Annual Reports for 1984 through 1987. On 544 aircraft search missions the ELT worked 120 times or 22.1% of the time and did not work on 424 missions or 77.9% of the time. (See Table 2).

Table 2

AFRCC Data from 1984 Through 1987 Showing the Number and Percent of ELTs That Did Not Operate in Crashes when Search Missions Were Required

			EARCH IONS		TOTALS	DEDCENT
	1984	1985	1986	1987	TOTALS	PERCENT
OPERATED	31	39	35	15	120	22.1%
DID NOT OPERATE	108	93	118	105	424	77.9%
TOTAL	139	132	153	120	544	100%

C. NTSB Data on Specific Causes of Failure

- 88% of the failures are crash related
- 12% are preventable with an inspection and maintenance program

The NTSB "Factual Report Aviation Accident /Incident" lists 19 specific reasons for ELT non-effectiveness/failure (Attachment 2). Two of the "reasons" (Operated Effectively and Test Satisfactorily after Accident) listed in the NTSB accident report form were dropped from the analysis as they could not be evaluated as "reasons for noneffectiveness." Table 3 below lists the remaining 17 reasons and the number of ELTs that failed in each category during the four year period, 1983 - 1987, as extracted from the NTSB data. It is interesting to note that 88% of the failures are crash related, i.e., "G" switch, fire damage, impact damage and antenna broken or disconnected, which reflects a requirement for ELTs and antennas which are more crash damage resistant. Twelve percent of the failures are attributed to defects which, in most cases, probably existed prior to the accident and consequently prevented the ELT from operating in an emergency situation.

Under a direct contract from the FAA the information derived from the NTSB data base was validated by a detailed review of a sample of 119 case files. This study is contained in Appendix C.

REASONS FOR ELT	# OF ELT
FAILURE	FAILURES
 Insufficient G's * 2. Improper installation * 3. Battery dead * 4. Battery corroded * 5. Battery installation incorrect * 6. Incorrect battery 7. Fire damage 8. Impact damage 9. Antenna broken/disconnected 10. Water submersion *11. Unit not armed 12. Shielded by wreckage 13. Shielded by terrain 14. Internal failure 15. Signal direction altered by terrain *16. Packing device still installed *17. Remote switch off 	$ \begin{array}{r} 245 \\ 12 \\ 42 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 280 \\ 356 \\ 180 \\ 62 \\ 70 \\ 17 \\ 9 \\ 14 \\ 4 \\ 3 \\ \underline{-16} \\ 1319 \\ \end{array} $

Table 3
ELT Failures from NTSB Factual Report Accident/Incident
(NTSB Form 6120.4) 1983 - 1987

* NOTE: Preventable with Mandatory Maintenace/Inspection Program

D. Other Substantiating Data

• Although other data sources could not be directly correlated with the NTSB data, they supported the finding of the NTSB data analysis.

Table 4 adds the data collected from other reports that also addresses the ELT noneffectiveness/failure problem. The data listed under the FAA Service Difficulty Reports (SDR), NTSB Special Study and the FAA Directed Safety Inspection, 1976 (DSI) columns could not be directly correlated to all of the specific reasons for failure listed under the NTSB 1983-1987 column; however, general support does exist. As an example, the NTSB data attributes 245 failures to the "G" switch. The FAA SDR report lists four (4) failures, the NTSB Special Study lists 2,228, and the DSI report lists 109. The small number under SDR (4) does not correlate because SDRs are usually submitted by maintenance technicians who discover defects during normal inspection and maintenance while the 245 "G" switch failures were documented during the process of accident investigation by the NTSB. In addition, the small number of "G" switch problems submitted through the SDR program may be attributed to a lack of information and equipment in the field to determine whether or not a "G" switch is functioning according to specification.

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	ATS'S		×15 5	\sim	
1. Insufficient G's	245	4	2228	109	ſ
2. Improper installation	12	40		6	
3. Battery dead	42	47	53	15	
4. Battery corroded	2	75		7	
5. Battery installation incorrect	3	27		4	
6. Incorrect battery	4	67			
7. Fire damage	280	1	} 266*	5	
8. Impact damage	356		J 200	23	
9. Antenna broken/disconnected	180	8	84	10	
10. Water submersion	62	3		3	
11. Unit not armed	70	3	205	6	
12. Shielded by wreckage	17				
13. Shielded by terrain	9				
14. Internal failure	14	102	219	13	
15. Signal direction altered by terrain	4				
16. Packing device still installed	3			5	
17. Remote switch off	16			20	
Totals:	1319	377	3115	226	

 Table 4

 Reasons for ELT Non-Effectiveness/Failure Based on Various Sources

* Fire and Impact Damage Combined in NTSB Special Study

<u>SDR</u>	-	FAA Service Difficulty Reports
<u>NTSB Special Study</u>		Special Study - Emergency Locator Transmitters: An Overview, 1978
<u>DSI</u>		FAA Directed Safety Investigation, 1976

III. VALIDATION OF FALSE ALARM RATE & CAUSES OF FALSE ALARMS

• While the percentage of false alarms is well documented, the specific causes are not easily quantified.

The number of false alarms that are generated on an annual basis is well documented; however, details which identify the cause of each one is seldom obtained (nor recorded). This is the result of not having a workable follow-up system which would document false alarm cause factors. The Rescue Coordination Centers (RCC) do record reasons, although they are limited by what is forwarded to them by the personnel in the field who locate the ELT transmitting the false alarm. Furthermore, the search personnel (often Civil Air Patrol volunteers) do not have the technical expertise or the test equipment available on the spot to "trouble shoot" a defective ELT and determine what caused the false transmission. Their task, when they locate the transmitting ELT is to simply turn it off. Sometimes the cause is obvious to them, from external examination; i.e., switch turned on, dropped on floor of hangar, case corroded, etc. In this case the information is usually included in the after action mission report which they submit to the AFRCC. However, when a defective ELT is taken by the owner to a shop for repair, the reason for the false transmission is lost in the process. There is no requirement for the owner or the repair shop to report why the ELT malfunctioned nor is there a central data collection point for this information. Consequently, the AFRCC at Scott AFB, Il has the most current and complete documentation available concerning the causes of ELT False alarms.

• 97% of the ELT signals reported to the AFRCC at Scott Air Force Base are false alarms.

From 1984 through 1987 the RCC at Scott AFB opened 6,626 rescue missions to locate transmitting ELTs. The results revealed that 6,421(97%) were non-distress or false signals generated by defective ELTs or operator mishandling. A random sample of 265 AFRCC ELT false mission reports yielded 9 reasons for false alarms with the major problems being the "G" switch, corrosion and mishandling. Of the 265 false alarm reports analyzed from the AFRCC, 45 (17%) were EPIRBs, 32 (12%) were military ELTs and 188 (71%) were civilian. It should be noted that in 58% of the cases investigated the cause of the false alarm was unknown or undetermined by the person in the field who located the ELT and filed the mission report with the AFRCC.

The other studies and reports reviewed for false alarm data generally support the information collected at the AFRCC (Table 5).

CAUSE	AFRCC	ARINC FIRs & SDRs	CRI #1	CRI #2	TOTAL
1. G-Switch	17	403	25	9	454
2. Corrosion	4	212	4		220
3. Human Failure	8	62	1	2	73
4. Misc. (heat, water or radiated interference)		70			70
5. G-Switch or Corrosion out of Aircraft	48				48
6. Incorrect Installation of ELT		45			45
7. Mishandling in Aircraft	26				26
8. Accidental Operation of Control			20		20
9. Accidental Operation of Remote Switch			6		6
10. Internal Failure	2		4		6
11. Vibration			4	1	5
12. Repeat Offender	5				5
13. Incorrect Battery	1				1
14. Unknown (no other info given)	154	900	35	4	1,093
TOTALS	265	1,692	99	16	2,072

Table 5
Combined Reasons for False Alarms Based on Current and Post Studies

- <u>AFRCC</u> -- Air Force Rescue Coordination Center
- ARINC -- ARINC Research Corporation
- FIRs -- Frequency Interference Reports from the Airways Facilities Division of the FAA
- SDRs -- FAA Service Difficulty Reports
- CRI -- Crash Research Institute

IV. ESTIMATION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO BE EXPECTED FROM IMPLEMENTING TSO-C91a

As a first step in estimating the improvements that can be expected by implementing TSO-C91a¹, a detailed paragraph by paragraph comparison was made with the requirements of the TSO-C91². RTCA Document DO-147, dated November 1970, established the requirements for the current generation of ELTs that are in the field today. This comparison of performance requirements is contained in the table in Appendix B.

The next step involved a paragraph by paragraph analysis of identified improvements against the reasons for failure (derived from the NTSB data base) and the causes of false alarms (derived from AFRCC data). This resulted in an estimated percent of expected performance improvement. A team of experts consisting of former members of the RTCA ELT committee and an experienced Search and Rescue Operations Officer was assembled to perform the detailed analysis. The team of experts also included a crash investigator who has also been active in ELT research and development.

A. Comparison of Old and New Specifications

To assist in the evaluation of the DO-147 and DO-183 requirements, the pertinent specifications from each document were summarized and placed side by side in a table grouped into five categories:

- 1. Performance Requirements
- 2. Crashworthiness
- 3. Electromagnetic Environment Requirements
- 4. Environmental Requirements
- 5. Installed Equipment Performance and Operational Tests

¹Details of C91a requirements are contained in RTCA Document DO-183 entitled "Minimum Operational Performance Standards for Emergency Locator Transmitters."

²Details of C91 requirements are contained in RTCA Document DO-147 entitled "Minimum Performance Standards for Emergency Locator Transmitters"

"Performance Requirements" was subdivided into ten areas, "Crashworthiness" into five areas, "Electromagnetic Environment" into eight areas, "Environmental Requirements" into fifteen areas and "Installed Equipment Performance and Operational Tests" into six areas. The applicable paragraph from the RTCA documents was then placed in each area for the detailed comparison analysis. (In many cases the DO-147 specifications did not address areas addressed by DO-183.) The team of experts then analyzed the differences between the two documents in each area and summarized the improvements to be expected in the last column of the Appendix B table.

B. Estimate of Improvements in Reliability of the ELT During Crashes

• 25% of ELTs currently activate in a crash situation; an increase to 73% is expected.

The NTSB data discussed in Chapter 2 on the specific causes of ELT failure in 1,319 crashes was examined in the light of the improvements summarized in the Appendix B table. For each of the 17 failures documented, the entire set of specifications and the expected improvements was estimated by the team of experts. This improvement, expressed in percentage, along with the applicable areas from the Appendix B table, are shown in Table 6. The percentage of "Expected Improvement" was then used to derive the remaining number of failures that could be expected after TSO-C91a is implemented. The "Expected Improvement" and the remaining number of failures to be expected, is shown in Table 7.

Table 6Expected Improvements from Implementation of DO-183

REASONS FOR ELT FAILURE	EXPECTED IMPROVEMENT %	APPLICABLE IMPROVEMENTS*
1 Income Gradent Cla	95%	A.7, A.9, B.2, D.8, E.1, E.4
1. Insufficient G's	95%	E.1, E.3, E.4, E.5
 Improper installation Battery dead 	95%	A.9, E.5, E.6
4. Battery corroded	50%	A.10, E.5
5. Battery installation incorrect	45%	A.9, E.2, E.3, E.4, E.5
6. Incorrect battery	75%	E.3, E.4, E.5
7. Fire damage	10%	B.3, B.4, D.14, D.15
8. Impact damage	75%	B.1, B.2, B.3, B.4
9. Antenna broken/disconnected	85%	B.2, B.5
10. Water submersion	0	
11. Unit not armed	98%	A.9, E.1, E.2, E.4, E.5
12. Shielded by wreckage	10%	A.3
13. Shielded by terrain	10%	A.3
14. Internal failure	75%	B.2, B.3, B.4, C.2, D.1, D.9,
		D.10, D.11, D.12
15. Signal direction altered by terrain	10%	A.3
16. Packing device still installed	98%	E.1, E.3, E.4, E.5
17. Remote switch off	100%	E.1, E.2, E.4, E.5

* The paragraph numbers listed in the Applicable Improvements column above refer to the ELT Performance Specifications Comparison chart in Appendix B of this document. The paragraphs identified provide the basis for predicting the expected percent improvement for each reason of ELT failure.

Table 7

Analysis of 1319 ELT Failures (where data was available) 1983-1987 and Expected
Improvement from TSO-C91a and Expanded Inspection/Maintenance Program

REASONS	# OF ELT FAILURES	EXPECTED IMPROVEMENT %	EXPECTED # OF ELT FAILURES
1. Insufficient G's	245	95%	12
* 2. Improper installation	12	95%	1
* 3. Battery dead	42	95%	2
* 4. Battery corroded	2	50%	1
* 5. Battery installation incorrect	3	45%	2
* 6. Incorrect battery	4	75%	1
7. Fire damage	280	10%	252
8. Impact damage	356	75%	89
9. Antenna broken/disconnected	180	85%	27
10. Water submersion	62	0	62
*11. Unit not armed	70	98%	1
12. Shielded by wreckage	17	10%	15
13. Shielded by terrain	9	10%	8
14. Internal failure	14	75%	4
15. Signal direction altered by terrain	4	10%	4
*16. Packing device still installed	3	98%	0
*17. Remote switch off	16	100%	0
Current Total of ELTs not Activated	1,319		
Expected Total of ELTs not Activated			481

* Preventable with an Expanded Maintenance/Inspection Program

Summary:

Current Success Rate:25%Expected Success Rate:73%The Expected Success Rate is Approximately Three Times the CurrentSuccess Rate.

Implementation of TSO-C91a and a more stringent inspection and maintenance program would drastically reduce the number of failures. TSO-C91a would vastly improve "G" switch performance, slightly improve fire resistance, reduce failures due to impact damage (primarily due to a better mount and case construction in relation to the mount) and significantly reduce antenna broken/disconnected incidents. A more stringent inspection and maintenance program would reduce the number of battery problems, the number of improper installations, the number of units not armed, the number of incorrect batteries installed and should preclude installation of ELTs with packing devices still installed as well as remote switches turned off.

The summary of the expected improvements is shown at the bottom of Table 7. The current failure rate of 75% (found from review of NTSB Factual Report Accident/Incident Form 6120.4 entries) should be reduced to 27% resulting in an improvement in ELT performance from 25% currently experienced to an expected 73%.

- C. Estimate of the Reduction in False Alarms to be Expected From Implementation of TSO-C91a and an Improved Inspection and Maintenance Program
 - The current number of false alarms can be expected to be reduced by 75% with implementation of TSO-C91a and a mandatory inspection and maintenance program.

The data on false alarm causes obtained from AFRCC records and other data sources (discussed in Chapter 2) were used to assess the potential benefit to be derived in reducing the false alarms due to the improved performance of TSO-C91a ELTs. Each cause of false alarms was examined in the light of improvements indicated in the Appendix B table and an assessment made by the team of experts of the percentage of improvement to be expected. This improvement was then applied to the number of false alarms by cause to derive the remaining number of false alarms expected after implementing TSO-C91a. The expected improvement for each cause of false alarm (due to the improved specification and an improved inspection and maintenance program) and the remaining false alarms is shown in Table 8.(Note that false alarms for unknown causes were removed from the data.)

It is obvious that implementation of TSO-C91a and a comprehensive mandatory inspection and maintenance program would have positive effects in most cause categories. Implementation of TSO-C91a would result in improvements in the "G" switch; built in resistance to internal failure primarily through corrosion control (positive separation of the battery and electronic sections); problems with heat, water and radiated interference; and the ability to withstand higher levels of vibration without activation of the ELT. False alarms due to corrosion, incorrect installation and incorrect batteries could be reduced through a more stringent mandatory inspection and maintenance program. A strong education program coupled with fines or license suspension for repeated offenders would have a positive effect on the mishandling/ human failures which are causing a high percentage of the false alarms.

In summary, the current number of false alarms is projected to be reduced by 75% with implementation of TSO-C91a and an improved inspection and maintenance program.

Table 8 Summary of Causes of False Alarms & Expected Improvement From TSO C-91a and a Mandatory Inspection and Maintenance Program

CAUSE OF FALSE ALARM	# OF FALSE ALARMS BY CAUSE	EXPECTED IMPROVEMENT %	EXPECTED # OF FALSE ALARMS	APPLICABLE IMPROVEMENTS
1. G-Switch	454	%06	45	A.7, A.9, E.1, E.4, E.5
2. Corrosion	220	80%	44	A.9, A.10, D.9, D.10, D.11, E.5
3. Human Failure	73	20%	58	A.9, E.1, E.5
4. Miscellaneous (heat, water or radiated interference)	70	65%	25	A.9, C.2, D.1, D.9, E.2, E.3
5. G-Switch or Corrosion out of Aircraft	48	40%	29	A.7, A.10, D.9, D.10
6. Incorrect Installation of ELT	45	%06	5	E.1, E.2, E.3, E.4, E.5
7. Mishandling in Aircraft	26	20%	21	A.9, E.1, E.5
8. Accidental Operation of Control	20	60%	2	A.9, E.1, E.5
9. Accidental Operation of Remote Switch	6	%09	2	A.9, E.1
10. Internal Failure	6	80%	1	A.10, B.1, B.2, B.3, B.4, D.1,
				D.9, D.12
11. Vibration	5	95%	1	A.9
12. Repeat Offender	S	50%	3	A.9
13. Incorrect Battery	-	0		
TOTAL	979		237	

Summary: Current False Alarms = 979 Expected False Alarms = 237 Expected False Alarms = 25% of the TSO C-91 ELTs

V. INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE

• The effectiveness of implementing TSO-C91a will be limited unless improved inspection and maintenance criteria are established.

To validate the conclusion in Chapter II that 12% of the ELT failures were preventable by an effective inspection and maintenance program, three sources of information were reviewed to determine the condition (status) of ELTs installed in general aviation aircraft. The information was collected in 1987, 1988, and 1989 from two U.S. and one Canadian report. All three of the reports revealed that an unacceptable number of discrepancies existed in the installed ELTs. Some of the discrepancies could cause ELTs not to operate when involved in an aircraft accident and others could contribute to the false alarm problem. A 1976 Directed Safety Inspection was reviewed to compare current findings with early ELT defect documentation.

A. 1989 FAA ELT Maintenance Survey

In 1989, the Federal Aviation Administration conducted a special survey with six Fixed Base Operators (FBOs) participating at five different locations in the United States. The FAA provided the FBO repair facilities with an ELT field test procedure/data collection sheet which included inspection instructions (see attachment 2). A "G" switch go/no go test fixture was used at two of the survey locations on some of the ELTs inspected.

- 107 ELTs inspected*
- 69 (64%) were discrepancy free
- 39 (36%) had a total of 52 discrepancies

This analysis reviewed 107 of the survey forms (Attachment 3) that were completed by the FBO repair facilities. Sixty-nine or 64% were discrepancy free while 39 or 36% had a total of 52 discrepancies some of which could have caused the ELTs to fail in an accident or could eventually cause false alarms (See Table 9).

* Note: 53 (49.5%) of the ELTs inspected by the FAA Special Survey were installed in twin engine aircraft.

Table 9
ELT Discrepancies Found in the 1989 FAA Survey (107 ELTs)

DISCREPANCY	# OF DISCREPANCIES
 "G" Switch Inoperative "G" Switch Limits Exceeded Low Power Output On/Off Switch in Off Position Battery Overdue Corrosion Antenna Discrepancies Defective On/Off Switch Portable Antenna Missing Battery Leaking Remote Switch Inoperative 	$ \begin{array}{r} 1 \\ 16 \\ 6 \\ 5 \\ 6 \\ 3 \\ 11 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{array} $
TOTAL	52

- 24 "G" switches tested
- 16 (67%) failed
- 8 (33%) passed

The FAA-furnished "G" switch go/no go test fixture was used on 24 of the ELTs surveyed. Significantly, only eight or 33% passed the "G" switch operational test and sixteen or 67% failed. This finding supports NTSB accident report data that documents the "G" switch as a major cause of ELT failures when involved in accidents. The test also correlates with reports that identify the "G" switch as a major contributor to the high number of ELT false alarms. Obviously, if the "G" switch mechanism is not within specification limits prior to an accident the possibility of it operating is reduced. Conversely, if the switch is over sensitive, it can be activated by a hard landing or towing operations thereby generating a false alarm.

B. 1987 Alaskan ELT Maintenance Survey

The Alaskan survey (Attachment 4) was conducted in 1987 by Northern Lights Avionics in Anchorage. The results were forwarded by the Alaskan Region FAA Office to Headquarters, Airspace Rescue and Recovery Service at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois and to the FAA-DOT, AWS-120, 800 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20591.

- 119 ELTs inspected
- 22 (18%) were discrepancy free
- 97 (82%) had a total of 119 discrepancies

The Alaskan survey inspected 119 ELTs and only 22 or 18% of the units were free of discrepancies (See Table 10). Ninety-seven or 82% of the units had a total of 119 discrepancies. The high number of discrepancies may be attributed to the harsh Alaskan climate, a lack of adequate test facilities (avionics shops), aircraft storage at remote locations and perhaps a lack of owner interest. Unfortunately, the Alaskan climate is unforgiving to those who encounter its harshness in a survival situation and search forces are faced with vast remote areas that are difficult, if not dangerous, to search. The Alaskan survey, at least in 1987, indicates that in a location where ELTs would be most beneficial, they were in the worst condition.

DISCREPANCY	# OF DISCREPANCIES
 Battery "G" Switch Circuit/Circuit Board On/Off Switch Corrosion/Rust Antenna Modulation Problems Unknown Causes 	49 8 28 6 6 5 2 15
TOTAL	119

Table 10
ELT Discrepancies Found in the 1987 Alaskan Survey

C. 1988 Transport Canada ELT Maintenance Survey

• 306 discrepancies in 1,684 ELTs

The Transport Canada report that was prepared by Leigh Instruments Limited of Ontario, Canada in 1988 revealed 306 discrepancies (18%) in 1,684 ELTs inspected.

Table 11	
Results of Transport Canada's Defective ELT	Survey

	TYPE OF DEFECT	# OF DEFECTS
2. 3. 4. 5. 6.	Circuit Board Failure Battery Replacement Overdue Crash Activated Switch ("G" Switch) Malfuction Corrosion Battery Failure Antenna and/or RF Connector Failure Miscellaneous Defects	59 58 46 43 37 34 29
	TOTAL	306

D. 1976 Directed Safety Investigation

The Directed Safety Investigation (DSI) [RIS: FS-8330-9], Emergency Locator Transmitter Activations, prepared by the Flight Standards Technical Division (Maintenance Analysis Center), dated March 1976, also identified a high number of similar ELT maintenance discrepancies. This verifies that the same basic ELT problems exist today that were present in 1976. The applicable parts of the DSI Executive Briefing follow:

Part I.* <u>Unwanted ELT Activations</u>. The purpose of this portion of the survey was to determine any causal factors for the occurrences of unwanted activations.

Total number of reports	417
Total number of manufacturers reported	12
Number of ELT units found with switch "on"	99
Number of ELT units found with "corrosion"	64
Number of activated units "cause" not reported	254

Part III.*<u>Accident Survey - ELT Performance</u>. The purpose of this portion of the survey was to determine what factors or conditions are preventing the ELT from functioning when exposed to conditions that should cause it to activate.

The analysis of this study considered the fact that ELT integrity should remain intact, only in survivable accidents. The unit is not designed to withstand or operate under conditions exceeding 50g.

Total number of reports	358
Number of reports citing function switch in the	
"off" position	27
Number of reports citing battery condition to be	
"discrepant"	78
Number of reports citing "insufficient impact or	
direction wrong ("G" switch problem)"	112

Part V.* <u>Manufacturers Warranty/Repair History</u>. The purpose of this portion of the survey was to determine what defects were being found when units were returned on warranty or for repair. Although there are 18 manufacturers of ELTs, reports were only received on eight.

Total number of units reported on	366
Number of reports citing defective transistors and	
printed circuit boards	84
Number of reports citing defective function of switches	70
Number of reports citing defective "G" switches	32
Number of reports citing defective crystals	30
Number of reports citing multiple defects	28
Number of reports citing defective batteries	18

^{*}Direct quote from the FAA DSI

E. Summary

There was no attempt made to correlate the foregoing surveys. Each survey stands alone and each verifies that an unacceptable high number of TSO-C91 ELTs installed in general aviation aircraft are defective. Some of the discrepancies could cause the ELTs not to operate when involved in an aircraft accident and some, over a period of time, could generate false alarms. Some lives will be lost because of ELTs that are inoperative before a crash occurs. Also, national resources will be unnecessarily expended responding to false alarms caused by ELT discrepancies that go undetected until a false alarm is generated.

In assessing the percentage of failures that could be prevented by an effective inspection and maintenance program it was decided that a conservative estimate would be between 12% (Based on the NTSB data base) and 18% (Based on the Canadian study). The FAA survey and the Alaskan surveys were considered too small of a sample and could contain biases, although they decidedly support the need for an effective inspection and maintenance program.

The FAA 1976 DSI also supports the above conclusions, however it was felt that this data was not necessarily valid due its much earlier time frame.

F. Conclusions

- 12-18% of the ELT failures in aircraft accidents could be prevented with an effective inspection and maintenance program.
- Current ELT inspection and maintenance methods and procedures are inadequate.
- The effectiveness of any ELTs, including TSO-C91a ELTs, can only be realized if backed by an effective ELT inspection and maintenance program.
- The NASA developed and FAA tested ELT inspection procedure should be refined, if necessary, and established as an FAA requirement.
- ELT inspection and maintenance must be coupled with rule making to ensure the potential effectiveness of the C91a ELTs.

VI. HUMAN SURVIVABILITY IN CRASHES WITH AND WITHOUT AN ELT

A large percentage of general aviation accidents result in some survivors. Review of the data from Block 213 of the NTSB accident records revealed that 85% of general aviation accidents result in some survivors categorized as : Seriously Injured; Minor Injuries or No Injuries. The time between a serious aircraft accident and when potential survivors can be found by rescue forces can have a dramatic impact on the probability of accident victims surviving the accident. This general time/survivability relationship is shown in Figure 1 developed by DOT, Mundo, et al. This time factor is particularly crucial when a search is required to locate the crash site.

The importance of having an operational ELT is supported by the statistics gathered through a review of the Aircraft Accident Investigative Report data provided by the NTSB and search missions coordinated by the AFRCC.

A. Elapsed Search Time With and Without an Operational ELT

From NTSB Data:

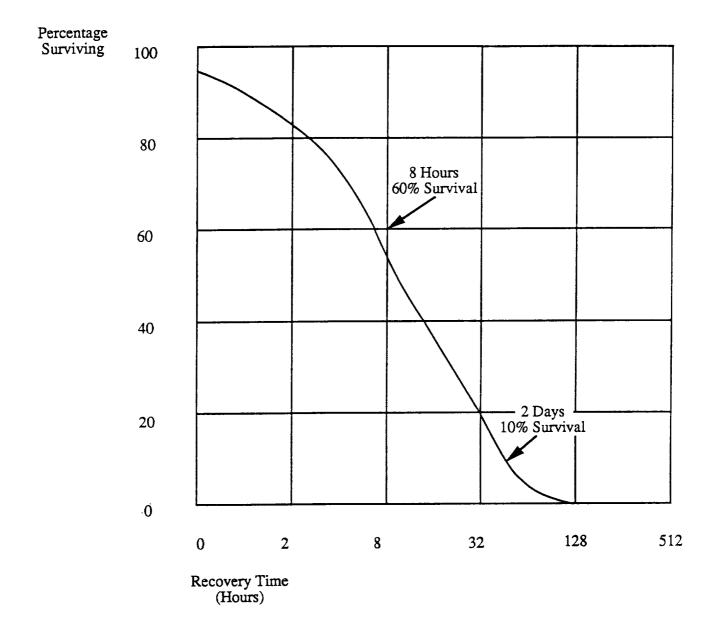
- 12.4 hours to locate a crash with an operable ELT
- 103.0 hours to locate a crash without an operable ELT

For the time period 1984 - 1987, NTSB accident reports document (Table 12) that it takes 12.4 hours to locate an aircraft crash with an ELT operating when a search is involved while it takes an average of 103.0 hours when ELTs are not operating.

WAS ELT WORKING?	TIME FROM SAR NOTIFICATION TO LOCATION OF DISTRESS (IN HOURS)				AVERAGE TIME FOR 1984 THROUGH 1987 (IN HOURS)
	1984	1985	1986	1987	
WORKING	8.7	9.2	7.9	23.8	12.4
NOT WORKING	67.4	138.3	160.7	45.7	103.0

Table 12 Data From NTSB Factual Report Aviation Accident/Incident (NTSB Form 6120.4) 1984 through 1987

Figure 1 SURVIVAL AS A FUNCTION OF RECOVERY TIME



REF: <u>Final Report ICSAR Ad Hoc Working Group Report on Satellites for Distress Alerting and Locating.</u> Oct. 1976, pg. 6-15.

DOD & NSC data given in C. Mundo, L. Tarni & G. Larson, <u>Final Report Program Plan for Search & Rescue Electronics Alerting and Locating System.</u> DOT-TSC-OST-73-42, February 1974.

From AFRCC Data:

• 12.3 hours to locate a crash with an operable ELT

• 50.0 hours to locate a crash without an operable ELT

Time saved in locating an aircraft crash with and without an operable ELT is the dominant factor in improving the survivability from serious aircraft accidents where a search is involved. The AFRCC Annual Reports for the years 1984 through 1987 (Table 13) documents that it takes an average of 12.3 hours to locate a crash from the time of RCC notification with an ELT operating and an average of 50.0 hours when no ELT is operating.

WAS ELT WORKING?	TIME FROM SAR NOTIFICATION TO LOCATION OF DISTRESS (IN HOURS)				AVERAGE TIME FOR 1984 THROUGH 1987 (IN HOURS)
	1984	1985	1986	1987	
WORKING	14.3	16.1	9.5	9.2	12.3
NOT WORKING	33.6	119.2	18.1	29.4	50.0

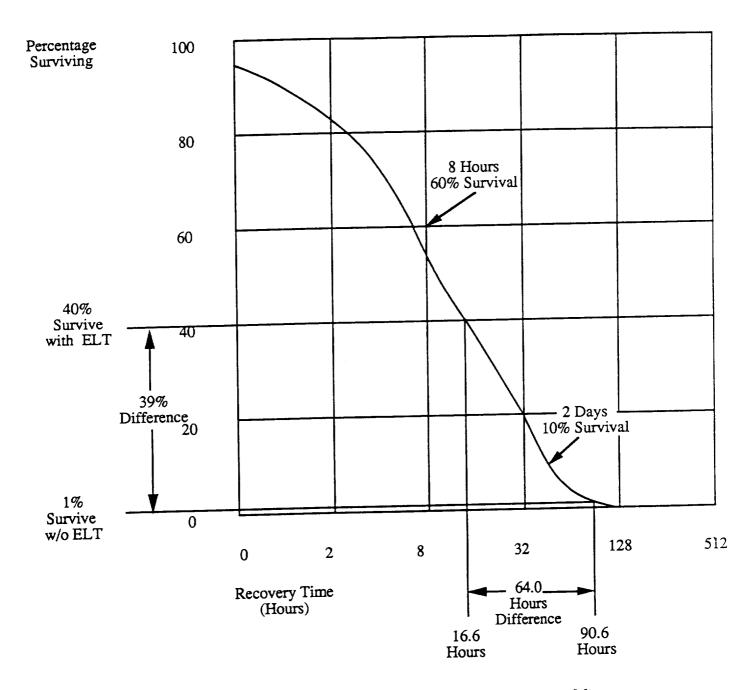
Table 13
Data from USAF AFRCC Annual Reports for 1984 through 1987

In The General Case of All Accidents

The above data can be used to project the expected improvement in survivability when an ELT is used during a search for a missing aircraft. If we average the difference in time from the two data sources (NTSB and AFRCC records) a projection of improved survivability can be derived from the DOT survival curve as shown in Figure 2.

In cases where searches were not required to locate the accident it is generally accepted that the ELT often acts as the first alert that a crash has occurred, although there is no data source to quantify this time advantage. To attempt to quantify the survivability advantage of a working ELT the entire NTSB Data Base period 1 January 1983 through 17 October 1988 was analyzed.

Figure 2 SURVIVAL AS A FUNCTION OF RECOVERY TIME



From NTSB Form 6120.4, Factual Report Aviation Accident/Incident, Supplement M, Search/Rescue/Firefighting/Medical Treatment Section and AFRCC data (See Tables 9 and 10).

REF: Final Report ICSAR Ad Hoc Working Group Report on Satellites for Distress Alerting and Locating. Oct. 1976, pg. 6-15.

DOD & NSC data given in C. Mundo, L. Tami & G. Larson, Final Report Program Plan for Search & Rescue Electronics Alerting and Locating System, DOT-TSC-OST-73-42, February 1974.

B. Survivability With and Without an Operational ELT

To establish a basis for projecting the number of lives that could be saved using the improved C91a ELTs and a mandatory inspection and maintenance program, two approaches were used. In the first approach the NTSB data base was examined for cases with and without an ELT operating where a search was involved. A survivability rate was calculated for both cases (i.e. Working ELT and Non-Working ELT). Survivability was defined as the number of survivors divided by the total number of people involved in the accident. In the second approach the total population of 12,744 general aviation accidents during the period of 1983 through October 1988 was evaluated. (The premise of this later approach was that the sheer number of accidents would randomize the other variables of survivability.)

From the NTSB Data Base Where a Search Was Required

• NTSB records from 1 January 1983 through 17 October 1988 where a search was involved indicate that an additional 23 lives per year could have been saved had the ELT operated.

Of the 662 accident records from 1 January 1983 through 17 October 1988 where a search was required, the ELT operated 255 times and failed to operate 407 times. (See Table 14) When the ELT operated 222 occupants survived for a 34% survivability rate. When the ELT did not operate 179 occupants survived for a 19% survivability rate.

Subtracting the 19% from 34% results in a 15% survivability advantage when the ELT operates. If the 15% advantage is multiplied by the 928 people involved where the ELT did not work the potential for additional survivors is 139 people. Dividing the 139 people over the six years equals an additional 23 lives per year that potentially could have been saved had the ELT worked in all of these accidents.

		# of Accidents	# People Involved	# of Survivors	Survival Rate	
A .	Accidents where ELT was operating	255	648	222	34%	
B .	Accidents where ELT was not operating	407	928	179	19%	
Survivability Advantage When ELT is Operating 34%-19%= 15%						
Lives lost from 1983 through 17 October 1988 due to ELT not operating 15% x 928 people involved = 139 LIVES						
Number of lives lost per year due to ELT failure 139 / 6 years = 23 LIVES / YEAR						

Table 14 NTSB Survivor Data Where a Search was Required (1 January 1983 through 17 October 1988)

From the Total NTSB Data Base:

• NTSB records from 1 January 1983 through 17 October 1988 indicate that an additional 58 lives per year could have been saved had the ELT operated.

Of 12,744 accident reports that were filed between 1 January 1983 and 17 October 1988, the ELT operated 4102 times and failed to operate 8642 times. When the ELT operated, 7077 aircraft occupants survived for an 85% survivability rate. When the ELT did not operate, 13,843 occupants survived for an 83% survivability rate.

Subtracting the 83% from 85% equals a 2% survivability advantage when the ELT operates. If the 2% advantage is multiplied by the 16,607 people involved where the ELT did not work, the product is 332 lives. Dividing the 332 lives over 5.8 years (1 January 1983 to 17 October 1988) equals an additional 58 lives per year that could be saved with operating ELTs.

Table 15 NTSB Survivor Data From Total NTSB Data Base (1 January 1983 Through 17 October 1988)

		# of Accidents	# People Involved	# of Survivors	Survival Rate		
A.	Accidents where ELT was operating	4102	8369	7077	85%		
B .	Accidents where ELT was not operating	8642	16,607	13,843	83%		
Survivability Advantage When ELT is Operating 85% - 83% = 2% Lives lost from 1983 through 17 October 1988 due to ELT not operating 2% x 16,607 people involved = 332 LIVES							
Number of lives lost per year due to ELT failure 332 / 5.8 years = 58 LIVES / YEAR							

VII. PROJECTED BENEFITS FROM TSO-C91a ELTs COUPLED WITH AN EFFECTIVE INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

A. Review of Lives Lost Per Year due to ELT Failures

Chapter VI examined the survivability of occupants in aircraft accidents for the six-year period 1983 through 1988. The examination of the overall data base of 12,744 general aviation accidents concluded that **58 lives per year were lost** (Table 15, page 27) in accidents where the ELT failed to operate that otherwise should have survived if the ELT had operated.

With the assumption that the operation of the ELT is a more dominant factor in the saving of lives where a search is required, the NTSB data base was examined for those cases where the accident investigator had filled out Supplement M of the Accident Investigation Report. Review of these 662 accident records revealed that 23 lives per year were lost (Table 14, page 26) in accidents where the ELT did not operate and a search was required.

To evaluate the above results and project the potential life saving benefits the following factors must be considered:

- The effectiveness of an ELT as an alerting device even when a search is not required.
- The 662 accident records where search information was available is probably somewhat lower than the actual number of cases and does not represent a complete set of data for the six-year period. In many cases the accident investigator may not have this information available at the time of his investigation.
- Because one cannot be sure that other factors may have biased the overall results of survivability when considering the entire data base, these results are subject to challenge. However, the large number of people involved (24,976) as well as the number of accidents (12,744) over the six-year time frame should tend to randomize the other variables which could affect survivability.

• The potential benefits in lives saved by a dramatic reduction in the number of false alarms (75% reduction) cannot be quantified, however, it is apparent that this reduction will improve the prerescue time and therefore save additional lives.

Taking the above factors into consideration it is concluded that the potential for lives to be saved is bounded by the results from the two data bases and an average of these bounds appears to be a conservative estimate of the lives lost each year due to ELT failure. Based upon this assumption it is concluded that <u>41 lives are lost each year</u> due to the failure of the ELT to operate.

B. Projected Benefits of Lives Saved Each Year

Based upon the analysis and projected improvements derived in Chapter IV, a performance improvement of 48% (73%-25%) is projected. This translates into **approximately 25 lives per year that will be saved** due to the improved C91a ELT and an effective inspection and maintenance program.

Although the projection in lives saved is based upon the C91a specification ELTs versus the C91 ELTs, the inspection and maintenance program is necessary to ensure that ELTs are properly installed and in working order. From the results of the maintenance studies given in Chapter V, lack of an effective inspection program will result in 12 to 18% of failures prior to the aircraft accidents resulting in **a loss of approximately 6 lives per vear** (e.g., a reduction in the projected 25 lives per year saved).

VIII. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Analysis of the NTSB accident investigation data (1983-1987) and the AFRCC annual reports (1984-1987) confirmed the previously reported failure rate of ELTs in aircraft accidents (75%) and the high incidence of false alarms (97%) being experienced with the TSO-C91 ELTs currently in the field. A detailed comparison of the specification required by TSO-C91a versus TSO-C91 was made to assess the improvements that could be expected for each type of crash failure and each false alarm cause. The projected improvement for each type of failure and each cause of false alarms concluded that the success rate of the ELT operation in a crash could be reduced to 1/4 of the number from C91 ELTs. By examining the survivability factor of aircraft accidents, with and without a transmitting ELT, it was projected that approximately 25 lives per year could be saved by implementing the TSO-C91a ELTs along with an effective inspection and maintenance program would reduce this projection of lives saved by approximately 6 lives per year.

APPENDIX A

Sources of Data Gathered for Analysis

APPENDIX A

Sources of Data Gathered for Analysis

Numerous studies, reports and analyses have been published concerning ELT performance. Fifty such reports were reviewed as source material for the NASA analysis. The following list of reports highlight the type of information that was available:

- DSI Study by the FAA
- CRI Reports
- ARINC False Alarm Study
- AFRCC Annual Reports
- NTSB Annual Reports

Unfortunately, very few of the 50 published documents could be used in the NASA analysis because each of them had their own purpose or goal. Although these documents substantiated most of the problem areas there was insufficient data to provide meaningful correlation with the NTSB data and the AFRCC records.

In addition to the reports that were reviewed, a study of the various relevant data bases was conducted to quantify the ELT performance and characterize the problems. The data bases studied were:

- NTSB Accident Investigations Data Base (NTSB Form 6120.4) (1983 1988)
- FAA Service Difficulty Reports
- AFRCC False Alarm Mission Reports (Selected 1988 Files)
- Alaskan Maintenance Survey
- FAA Maintenance Survey

A detailed review of the above data bases resulted in the following conclusions:

- The FAA Service Difficulty Reports did not correlate with other data bases, although they did substantiate the need for a better and more frequent inspection program; however, the type of problems reported do reinforce the data from other sources.
- The maintenance surveys conducted in Alaska and in the CONUS by the FAA also reinforce the need for a more frequent and more comprehensive inspection program.
- The AFRCC False Alarm Mission Reports proved to be the only current data available to characterize the false alarm; however, past reports were reviewed and the data combined with the results of our study of the AFRCC data.

Consequently, after review of the available documentation, it was determined that NTSB and AFRCC data would be used as the cornerstones of the NASA analysis. Support of the NTSB and AFRCC data was provided by other documentation that could be correlated.

A. NTSB Data:

NTSB data was obtained from the NTSB Factual Report Aviation/Accident Report (NTSB Form 6120.4) which in completed by NTSB aircraft accident investigators. The following sections were used:

1. <u>Basic Report, Blocks 67, 68 and 69 (Attachment 3)</u>: Blocks 67,68 and 69 of the basic report asked the NTSB accident investigator if an ELT was installed (yes or no), if an ELT was required (yes or no) and if the ELT operated (yes or no). This information was used to determine the percentage of ELTs that operated when involved in a crash and was compared to survivor data collected from the search and rescue section of the report.

2. <u>Basic Report. Block 216 (Attachment 4)</u>: Block 216 of the basic report asked the accident investigator to classify the injuries sustained by the aircraft crash victims. Four classifications were available; A-Fatal, B-Serious, C-Minor and D-None. This information was used to determine fatality rates for aircraft accidents with and without the ELT operating. 3. <u>Supplement A, Block 56 (Attachment 5)</u>: Supplement A, Block 56 of the report provides nineteen (19) reasons for ELT noneffectiveness/failure from which the accident investigator could select one or more (multiple entry) reasons. The number 1 block, if selected, indicated that the ELT operated effectively and an "A" selection is available to signify reasons "other" than the 19 listed. The number 1 block and the "A" selection were not considered in the analysis for obvious reasons; i.e., even if the ELT operated effectively, it could have still had some type of superficial damage. The "A-Other" block was not used because it was not specific. Supplement A. Block 56 data was used to identify the specific reasons why ELTs do not work in accidents and then used as a basis for determining improvements that could be realized through implementation of RTCA DO-183.

4. <u>Supplement M, Blocks 1 though 12 (Attachment 6)</u>: Blocks 1 through 12 identified; (1) Whether or not a search was required; (2) The type of search conducted; (4) When the search agency was notified; (5) When the aircraft occupants were located; (7) Whether or not the Civil Air Patrol was involved; (8) Whether military or Coast Guard personnel were involved; (9) Whether a distress call was transmitted; (10) Whether a distress call was received; (11) The method of locating the accident site; and (12) The condition of the aircraft occupants at rescue. (Note: Blocks 3 and 6 were not used on the NTSB accident report form.) The Search and Rescue Section of Supplement "M" was used to identify aircraft accidents involving search operations in other NTSB data runs and to determine the time factors involved in reaching occupants of crashed aircraft with and without operating ELTs.

B. Air Force Rescue Coordination Center Data

AFRCC Annual Reports were used to:

- 1. Determine the time lapse from SAR notification to location of the distress. This data was compared with the time lapse data extracted from Supplement M-Search/Rescue/Firefighting/Medical Treatment, Blocks 1-12, of the NTSB Factual Report Aviation Accident/Incident.
- 2. Determine, on aircraft search missions coordinated by the AFRCC (Years 1984 through 1987), the number of ELTs that worked as opposed to ELTs that did not work in aircraft crashes. This data was compared with Block 69 (Operated, yes or no) of the Basic Section, NTSB Factual Report Aviation Accident/Incident.

AFRCC False Mission Records were used to (hands on review):

Identify the causes of ELT false Alarms. This information was used to compare cause of false activations in Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Service Difficulty Reports and other independent reports containing data which could be correlated.

C. Other Substantiating Reports

- Federal Aviation Administration Service Difficulty Reports (SDR), in computer format, were obtained from the Aviation Standards National Field Office in Oklahoma City. These reports identify defects discovered during the process of performing aircraft maintenance. They are forwarded to the FAA, on a voluntary basis, by private industry aircraft mechanics/avionics personnel who discover abnormal or repeat defects which they believe need corrective action and desimination to the aviation public. The data was compared to the AFRCC causes of false alarms, the Alaskan Survey and the NTSB Reasons for Non-Effectiveness in aircraft accidents.
- The Canadian Feasibility Study of Potential Approaches to Upgrade Existing Emergency Locator Transmitters was reviewed. The study contained a section (Section 3) which identified ELT defects discovered by Canadian avionics maintenance shops. This information was compared, by defect category, to the U.S. FAA SDRs.
- 3. The ARINC Research Corporation, Final Report, Control of False Alarms, October 1979, and the Crash Research Institute Study by David S. Hall concerning false alarms, were compared to 1988 false alarm data obtained from the AFRCC to determine whether or not the causes of false alarms had varied since the late 1970's to 1988.
- 4. In 1989 the FAA conducted an ELT maintenance survey which field tested a new method of determining whether or not an installed ELT was functioning in accordance with published specifications. This determined the number of ELTs that would not have operated in an accident because of an existing defect and evaluated the effectiveness of new check-out procedures when accomplished by private industry representatives.

APPENDIX B

ELT Performance Specifications

ELT PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATIONS

(RTCA/DO-183, RTCA/DO-147 COMPARISON)

A. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

IMPROVEMENTS			New optional transmitter requirements to improve SAR capabilities have been added: (a) Burst of unmodulated carrier for 2 seconds every 8 seconds to aid SAR system detection and homing. It could be used to distinguish between maritime and acronautical users. (b) Provide clearly defined carrier that is disting from the sideband components to aid SAR satellite detection system. (c) Voice modulation (A3) is permissible provided that it is consistent with ELT's primary function.
RTCA/DO-147 (NOV 1970)	Paragraph 2.1 Reference 2.2.5 The power supply capacity is to provide continous operation for 48 hours under maximum power consumption. The PER P shall be at least 75 mW during this operation.	Paragraph 2.2.1 The transmitter shall operate simultaneously on 121.5 and 243.0 MHz ±.005%.	Paragraph 2.2.2 The type of emission shall be A9 and shall have a distinctive audio characteristic achieved by amplitude-modulating the carrier with an audio frequency sweeping downward over a range of not less than 700 Hz, within the range 1,600 to 300 Hz, and with a sweep repetition rate between 2 and 4 Hz. The modulation factor shall be at least. 85. Modulation may be essentially or entirely negative going, and the modulation envelope may be essentially rectangular.
RTCA/DO-183 (MAY 1983)	Paragraph 2.2.1 Reference 2.2.2.5, 2.3.1 The power upply capacity is to provide continuous operation between the temperatures of -20° and 55°C. It should operated for a 50-hr period with a minimum PERP of 50 mW (17 dBm) or operate for a 100-hr period with a minimum PERP of 25 mW (14 dBm). Additionally, the ELT may be qualified to operate throughout a 50-hr period at -40°C with a minimum PERP of 5 mW (7 dBm).	Paragraph 2.2.2.1 The transmitter shall operate simultaneously on 121.5 and 243.0 MHz ±.005% under all environmental operating conditions.	 Paragraph 2.2.2.2 The type of emission shall be A9 and shall have a distinct audio characteristic achieved by amplitude-modulating the carrier with an audic frequency sweeping downward over a range of not less than 700 Hz, within the range 1,600 to 300 Hz, and with a sweep repetition rate between 2 and 4 Hz. The modulation factor shall be at least 85. The following are optional characteristics to improve SAR capabilities: (a) SAR Detection and Homing Capabilities : a burst of unmodulated CW power for a duration of 2.0±.25 seconds and repeat this burst every 8.0±.25 seconds. (b) SAR Satellite Detection - provide clearly defined carrier with at least 30% of power within ±30 Hz of the carrier at 121.5 MHz and ±60 Hz at 121.5 MHz and ±60 Hz at 121.5 MHz and ±60 Hz at 121.5 MHz. (c) Voice Modulation (A3) - it shall consume energy from the power supply at a rate greater than normal ELT swept tone modulation (A9).
ELT SPECIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	1. Operating Life	 Transmitter Operating Frequencies 	3. Transmitter Modulation Characteristics

IMPROVEMENTS		Same as A3		The PERP minimum level shall be reached within 5 minutes of manual or automatic activation. This increases the probability of the unit functioning in extreme environments.
RTCA/D0-147 (NOV 1970)	Paragraph 2.2.3 Same	Paragraph 2.2.4 Reference 2.2.3 The carrier shall not be interrupted except as allowed in 2.2.3	Paragraph 2.2.5 The PERP shall be at least 75 mW on each frequency.	None
RTCA/DO-183 (MAY 1983)	Paragraph 2.2.2.3 Modulation applied to carriers shall have a minimum duty cycle of 33% and a maximum duty cycle of 55%.	Paragraph 2.2.2.4 Reference 2.2.2.2 The transmission shall not be interrupted, except as specified in 2.2.2.2.	Paragraph 2.2.2.5 Reference 2.3.1.1, 2.3.1.2 The ELT shall meet one of the following power/time combinations: (a) at least 50 mW (17 dBm) over a 50-hr period (b) at least 25 mW (14 dBm) over a 100-hr period (c) not less than any linearly extrapolated power level vs. time period between (a) and (b) above. In addition to (a), (b), or (c), the ELT may operate over a 50-hr period at -40°C with a PERP of at least 5mW (7 dBm).	Paragraph 2.2.9 Transmitter Turn-On Reference 2.2.2.5 Within 5 minutes of activation (auto or manual), the PERP shall be at least 50 mW (17 dBm) or that selected by the manufacturer.
ELT SPECIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	4. Modulation Duty Cycle	5. Transmitter Duty Cycle	6. Peak Effective Radiated Power	

A. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS (cont.)

L

ELT SPECIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	RTCA/DO-183 (MAY 1983)	RTCA/DO-147 (NOV 1970)	IMPROVEMENTS
7. Automatic Crash Activation of Sensor	Paragraph 2.2.3 Reference 2.4.2.3, Figure 2-1 The creath activation sensor will activate with a threshold force level of 2.04.3 G's and a minimum velocity change of 3.54.5 f(ysec (but not under less severe conditions) and when simultaneously subjected to 30 G's of cross-axis acceleration.	Paragraph 2.3.1 The transmitter shall be automatically activated when the crash force series is subjected to a force of 5.04.2 G's and greater in the direction of the longitidinal axis of the aircraft, but it shall not activate under any less severe conditions. After automatic activation, the transmitter shall remain activated when subsequently subjected to shock forces in any direction of up to 50 G's and having durations of up to 11 milliseconds.	The crash sensor must activate is accordance with a new de-acceleration response curve and it shall function properly when simultaneously subjected to 30 G's of cross-axis acceleration. The result of this improvement is to pravide a significant increase in the number of false detected and a decrease in the number of false alarms caused by factors such as hard landings or mis-handling.
	Paragraph 2.2.3 c. Sensor Packaging Reference 2.2.1 If the crash sensor is packaged as a separate unit, no combination of short circuits and/or open circuits in the interconnecting wiring shall result in a reduction of operating life or in deactivation of the transmitter after it has been activated.	None	
	Paragraph 2.2.3 d. Crash Sensor/ELT Interface Also if a separate unit is used, the interface wirring is not required to survive the crash after it transmits the activation signal. Disconnecting the interface for maintenance shall not cause a false activation.	None	Potential improvement available from a remote crash sensor.
	Paragraph 2.2.3 e. Optional Sensors Reference 2.2.3 b., 2.2.1 Alternate crash sensors are optional. Switches must be mounted in sufficient numbers and locations to detect a crash as described in 2.2.3b. Using operational parameters, such as engine pressure or engine vacuum, to indicate crash situations is another acceptable method. ELT activation shall not occur during normal operational procedures and special action on the part of the pilot to disarm the device at the end of the flight shall not be required.	Paragraph 2.3.1 Note Alternate sensors may be used provided that they may be shown to be substantially equivalent to sensors responsive to the crash forces as described above.	

A. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS (cont.)

IMPROVEMENTS		The ability of the pilot to determine whether the ELT is armed and/or when it is activated will result in a twofold benefit: (1) A significant decrease in the number of crashes where the ELT was found unarmed. (2) A mitigation of the false alarm problem by making the pilot aware when the transmitter has been inadvertantly turned on. This will provide a greater probability of proper operation in a crash when a remote control/monitor is used.	Major improvement to prevent corrosion of electronics from battery leakage will: (1) Reduce false alarms (2) Improve reliability in a crash situation
RTCA/DO-147 (NOV 1970)	Paragraph 1.10 a-c The anterna shall provide optimum performance at 121.5 and 243.0 MHz and its radiation pattern in the horizontal plane shall be essentially omnidirectional.	None	None
RTCA/DO-183 (MAY 1983)	Paragraph 2.2.4 Both the fixed antenna and the auxiliary anterna (if provided) shall radiate on 121.5 and 243.0 MHz. Radiation shall be vertically polarized and omnidirectional in the horizontal plane, but only when the antenna is in its normal orientation.	Paragraph 2.26 a-e An aural and/or visual monitor (integral or separate from the ELT unit) is required to alert the pilot as to when the ELT has been activated and is transmitting. The aural monitor must be integral to the ELT or installed in the aircraft and must have a signal minimum intensity level of 90 dBm measured 1 meter from the source. The visibul under normal daytime ambient light condition, and it shall be visible under normal daytime ambient light condition, and it shall be visible under normal be in view of the pilot's position, and it shall be visible under normal daytime ambient light conditions at 1 meter. Remote controls shall be provided if the local controls are not accessible from the pilot's position. For both monitors, the remote control modes will be Manual On, Armed, and Reset. Off will not be available. The power supply, either a dedicated or alternate power supply, may not detract from the ELT operating life. For fault tolerance, no combination of short circuits between the remote control, monitor(s), associated wiring and the airframe shall either inhibit the equipment from being automatically activated or deactivate the ELT after it has been activated or cause a power drain.	Paragraph 2.1.1.1 Requires that gas or liquid seepage from power supply shall not effect internal ELT components (separation of battery compartment from electronics)
ELT SPECIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	 Antenna Radiation Characteristics 	9. Activation Monitor and Remote Control	10. Power Supply

A. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS (cont.)

ELT SPECIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	RTCA/DO-183 (MAY 1983)	RTCA/DO-147 (NOV 1970)	IMPROVEMENTS
1. Shock Impulse Survival Level	Paragraph 2.3.4.1 The ELT must survive 1 shock impulse of 500 G's (4±1 ms duration) in each of six directions. This impulse is based on aircraft impact velocities of 190 mph.	None	The chances of survival of the ELT in a crash will be greatly improved.
2. System Integrity Associated with Crashworthiness	Paragraph 2.2.5 Reference 2.4.2.4 The attachment/mounting normally used to mount the ELT in the aircraft shall withstand a shock test of 100 G's in all directions in the non-operating mode without the ELT breaking loose, damaging the equipment, or otherwise resulting in the ELT not being able to activate.	Paragraph 3.3 Survive one shock impulse of 50 G's (11±2 ms duration) in each of six directions. The crash sensor is exempted from this requirement.	The survival of the ELT in its mount will be greatly improved. In the current system many ELTs separate from their mounts.
 Crash Protuding Survivability 	Paragraph 2.3.4.2 The ELT must withstand a drop of 25 kg (55lb) mass with a penetrator of .64 cm (.25 in) x 2.5 cm (1 in) from a height of 15 cm (6 in) on the most vulnerable area of three or four required areas of the ELT.	None	This new requirement is based on studies of real and controlled crashes and will result in a higher degree of survivability against impact damage.
4. Crash Pressure Survivability	Paragraph 2.3.4.3 The ELT must withstand a crushing pressure of 6.9 x 10^5 newtons per m^2 (100 psi) not to exceed 450 kg (1000 lb) successively over three or four required surface areas of the ELT.	None	A significant improvement in the ability of the ELT to survive impact damage in a crash.
5. Antenna and Coaxial Cable	Paragraph 3.1.10, 3.1.11 Specific requirements for proximity of antenna to ELT (3.1.10.2); static load test of 100 x weight (3.1.10.3); cable installation requirements (3.1.11).	None	Significant improvement in crash survivability of antenna and interconnecting cable.

B. CRASHWORTHINESS

ELT SPECIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	RTCA/D0-183 (MAY 1983)	RTCA/DO-147 (NOV 1970)	IMPROVEMENTS
1. Radio Frequency Intermodulation	 Paragraph 2.2.7 a-b Paragraph 2.2.7 a-b Reference 2.4.2.7, Figure 2-2, 2-3 Table 2-1, 2.2 When the ELT unit is in the Armed mode, the application of any two frequencies in the 54-108 MHz band at +10 to When the ELT unit is in the Armed mode, the application of a third frequency in the 108-137 MHz band exceeding the levels specified below: (a) direct coupling to the RF output terminal - the third frequency shall not exceed -83 dBm (b) radiation coupling to external surface of the aircraft test configuration - it shall not result in a third field with an intensity greater than 7 microvolts/meter at an appropriate receiving antenna 2 meters from the ELT antenna. 	None	Reduces the potential for the ELT to interfere with other avionics systems in the aircraft and in other nearby aircraft.
 Radio Frequency Susceptibility (not applicable to ELTs) 	Paragraph 2.2.8 When the ELT unit is in the Armed position, it shall not be activated or damaged when a signal in the 108-137 MHz band at a +23 dBm level is directly coupled to the ELT antenna terminal or for ELTs that employ internally mounted antennas, when a vertically polarized electromagnetic field of 9.6 volt/meter is applied to the external surface of the aircraft test configuration.	None	Reduces the potential for internal failures to the ELT and false activations due to high power external transmissions.
 Normal Variations of the Electrical Power Supply Inputs 	Paragraph 2.3.12.1 Reference 2.2.6 Reference DO-1608, 16.5.1 and/or 16.5.2 If applicable, the ELT Remote Monitor shall operate and meet "Activation Monitor" requirements (Paragraph 2.2.6) under normal variation (surges, peaks or ripple voltage variations, interruptions, etc.) of the aircraft electrical system, as specified in 16.5.1 and/or 16.5.2.	None	When a remote monitor/control is provided the requrement reduces the potential for electrical power variations to cause inadvertent activation.
 Abnormal Conditions of the Electrical Power Supply Inputs 	Paragraph 2.3.12.2 Reference 2.2.6 Reference DO-160B, 16.5.3 and/or 16.5.4 If applicable, the ELT Remote Monitor shall withstand abnormal conditions of the aircraft electrical system, as specified in 16.5.3 an/or 16.5.4.	None	Same as above.

C. ELECTROMAGNETIC ENVIRONMENT REQUIREMENTS

ELT SPECIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	RTCA/DO-183 (MAY 1983)	RTCA/D0-147 (NOV 1970)	IMPROVEMENTS
5. Voltage Spike Protection	Paragraph 2.3.13 Reference 2.2.6 Reference DO-160B, 17.3 (Category A) or 17.4 (Category B) If applicable, the ELT Remote Monitor shall withstand the effects of voltage spikes arriving on its power leads as specified in 17.3 (Category A) or 17.4 (Category B). The ELT shall not activate under conditions less severe than this.	None	When a remote monitor/control is provided the requirement reduces the potential for electrical power variations to cause inadvertant activation.
6. Conducted Audio- Harmonics Susceptibility	Paragraph 2.3.14 Reference 2.2.6 Reference DO-160B, Section 18 The ELT Remote Monitor shall operate and meet "Activation Monitor" requirements when subjected to audio frequency components that are harmonically related to the power supply fundamental frequency, as specified in Section 18. The ELT shall not activate under these conditions.	None	When a remote monitor/control is installed, this requirement will reduce the probability of inadvertant activation due to improper design of the equipment.
7. Induced Audio-Signal Susceptibility	Paragraph 2.3.15 Reference 2.2.6 Reference DO-160B, Section 19 The ELT monitor shall operate and meet "Activation Monitor" requirements when its interconnecting wire bundle is subject to induced audio spikes, and electric and magnetic fields, as specified in Section 19. The ELT shall not activate under these conditions.	None	When a remote monitor/control is used, this requirement will reduce the probability of inadvenant activation due to induced voltages in the wiring.
8. Radio Frequency Energy Emission	Paragraph 2.3.16 Reference DO-160B, Section 21 The equipment shall operate within the RF conducted and radiated permissible levels specified in Section 21.	None	Reduces the potential for the FiLT to interfere with other avionics systems in the aircraft and in other nearby aircraft.

C. ELECTROMAGNETIC ENVIRONMENT REQUIREMENTS (cont.)

ELT SPECIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	RTCA/DO-183 (MAY 1983)	RTCA/D0-147 (NOV 1970)	IMPROVEMENTS
 Ground Survival (Non-Operating) Temperature 	Pangraph 2.3.1.1 Low -55° (±3°) C Pangraph 2.3.1.2 High +85° (±3°) C	Paragraph 3.1 Low -65°C High+71°C	The higher temperature limit will reduce the number of internal failures.
2. Operational Temperature	Paragraph 2.3.1.1 a Low -20° (±3°) C with full PERP Paragraph 2.3.1.1 b Low -40° C with a reduced PERP of 5mW (±7dBm) during a 50-hour operating period. Paragraph 2.3.1.2 High +55° (±3°) C	Paragraph 3.1 Low -20° C High +55° C	Provides operation under environmental conditions not currently available with existing specifications. In particular, areas like Alaska and the northern states will benefit significantly in the winter months.
3. Operational Temperature Variation	Paragraph 2.3.2 Reference DO-160B, Section 5 The ELT must operate at maximum duty cycle during temperature variations of 2.5° C minimum per minute between high (55°C) and low (-20° C) operating temperature extremes.	Paragraph 3.5 The ELT must operate at maximum power consumption during temperature variations not exceeding 1 ° C per minute between +55° C and -40° C.	Improves the capability of the ELT to operate under rapid temperature changes.
4. Humidity	Paragraph 2.3.3 Reference DO-160B, 6.3.1, Category A The ELT must withstand 48 hours (two cycles) of exposure in a standard humidity environment. A cycle is defined as follows: (a) a hours exposure to and atmosphere of 50°C and a relative humidity of at least 95%, and (b) 16 hours exposure to an atmosphere at 38°C or lower and a relative humidity of at least 85%.	Paragraph 3.2 SAME.	

D. ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

ELT SPECIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	RTCA/DO-183 (MAY 1983)	RTCA/DO-147 (NOV 1970)	IMPROVEMENTS
 High-Altitude Survival Pressure for Installations in Non-Pressurized Compartments 	Paragraph 2.3.1.3 Reference DO-1608, Table 4.1, 4-2 The ELT equipment shall withstand a low-pressure equivalent to the maximum operational altitude for the aircraft on which the ELT will be installed.	Paragraph 3.1.3 50,000 ft. (15,240 m) or 116 mbars	
6. Decompression Survival Requirement	Paragraph 2.3.1.4 Reference DO-160B, 4.6.2 The ELT shall withstand an absolute pressure reduction from 8,000 ft. (752.6 mbars) to the equivalent of the maximum operational altitude for the aircraft on which the ELT will be installed.	Paragraph 3.1.4 The ELT must withstand a reduction in pressure from 8,200 ft. alitude to the atmospheric pressure of 40,000 ft. altitude.	
 Overpressure Survival for Installations in Pressurized Compartments 	Paragraph 2.3.1.5 Reference DO-160B, 4.6.3 The ELT must withstand an absolute pressure of 1697.3 mbars (-15,000 ft equivalent).	Paragraph 3.1.5 It specifies overpressure requirements, but it does not list pressure value.	
8. Vibration Endurance	Paragraph 2.3.5 There will be no activation during exposure to a vibratory motion (varying at rate not to exceed 1.0 octaves/minute) in all three major orthogonal ELT axes.	Paragraph 3.4 SAME	
9. Waterproofness	Paragraph 2.3.7.2 Spray Proof Paragraph 2.3.7.1 Drip Proof (When Required) Reference DO.160B, 10.3.1, 10.3.2 The ELT in operating mode shall withstand 15 minutes of spray water in all six sides and, if required, falling drip water as specified in 10.3.1 and 10.3.2. Also compliance is tested after the 15 minute water spray.	Paragraph 3.7 Same except that compliance with standards is only determined while being subhected to the spray or falling (drip) water and not after the 15-minute period.	More effective test of ability of ELT to withstand water penetration.

D. ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS (cont.)

ELT SPECIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	RTCA/DO-183 (MAY 1983)	RTCA/DO-147 (NOV 1970)	IMPROVEMENTS
10. Salt Water Resistance	Paragraph 2.3.11 Salt Water Spray (Optional for AF) Reference DO-160B, Section 14, Category S The ELT must withstand a salt log atmosphere at 35° C for a 48-hour period and a 48-hour drying period at ambient temperature.	None	Improved reliability of ELTs operability near salt water environment.
	Paragraph 2.3.8.2 Salt Water Immersion (Optional for AF) Reference DO-160B, 11.4.2, 14.3.4, 14.3.4.1, Category S The ELT must withstand a 24-hour immersion period in salt water at 30°C to 40°C and a 160-hour drying period at 65°C.	Paragraph 3.6 The ELT must withstand a 15-hour inumersion period in salt water.	Improved reliability of ELTs operating near a salt water environment.
11. Fluids Susceptibility	Paragraph 2.3.8.1 Fluid Spray (When Required) Reference DO-1608, 11.4.1 The ELT must withstand a 24-hour fine mist wetted condition and a 160-hour drying period at 65°C.	None	Improved performance for ELT installations in areas where fluid contamination could be commonly encountered.
	Paragraph 2.3.8.3 Fluid Immersion (When Required) Reference DO-160B, 11.4.2 The ELT must withstand a 24-hour immersion period and a 160-hour drying period at 65°C.	None	
12. Blowing Sand and Dust Resistance	Paragraph 2.3.9 Reference DO-160B, Section 12 When required, the ELT must withstand a dust and sand jet between .5 and 2.5 m/sec during a 1-hour period at 25°C and 30% relative humidity and a 1-hour period at 55°C and 30% relative humidity along each major orthogonal axis.	None .	Improved reliability of ELT, particularly under environmental conditions where blowing sand and dust are prevalent.
13. Fungus Resistance	Paragraph 2.3.10 Reference DO-160B, Section 13 When required, the ELT must withstand a 28-day fungus growth period at 30°C and 97% relative humidity followed by a 48-hour drying period at room temperature.		

D. ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS (cont.)

IMPROVEMENTS	Improved crash reliability regarding potential for causing fire.	Significant improvement in reliability during crashes where fire is a factor.
RTCA/DO-147 (NOV 1970)	None	None
RTCA/DO-183 (MAY 1983)	Paragraph 2.3.6 Reference DO-1608, Section 9 There will be no detonation of the explosive mixture (when required).	Paragraph 2.1.5 Except for small parts (such as knobs, seals, etc.) that would not contribute significantly to the propagation of a fire, all ELT materials used shall be self-extinguishing. A means of showing compliance is contained in Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR), Part 25, Appendix F.
ELT SPECIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	14. Explosion Proofness	15. Fire Resistance

D. ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS (cont.)

ELT SPECIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	RTCA/DO-183 (MAY 1983)	RTCA/DO-147 (NOV 1970)	IMPROVEMENTS
1. Equipment Installation	Paragraph 3.1 Provides specific requirements for installation of ELT in aircraft which take in account accessibility, aircraft environment, display visibility, dynamic response, failure protection, inadvertant turn-off, ELT location, crash sensor orientation, antenna installation and location, and coaxial cable installation and integrity.	None	Major improvement in survivability and performance of ELT mounted in aircraft.
2. Installed Equipment	Paragraph 3.2 Suppliments Paragraph 2.1 and 2.2 by adding installed equipment requirements of dynamic response and interference effects.	None	Improves performance of installed ELT system.
3. Condition of Test	Paragraph 3.3 Requires testing with other avionics equipment operating.	None	Improves compatibility with the equipment in aircraft.
4. Test Procedures for Installed Equipment Performance	Paragraph 3.4 Requires inspection of installed equipment to meet requirements of Section 2 with specific requirements to test remote monitor/control, accessibility and interference effects.	None	Improved performance of installed equipment.
5. Operational Tests	Paragraph 4.0 Provides preftight procedures, post-flight procedures, operational checks and inspection requirements.	None	Improves overall reliability by providing confidence checks of ELT system on a regular basis.
6. Power Supply	Paragraph 2.1.11 Specifies shelf life not greater than one half the cell shelf lifeand that the expiration date be clearly marked externally.	None	
	Paragraph 2.1.11 Provides for use of aircraft battery or other supplemental power supply for remote monitor/control and/or charging.	None	Remote monitor/control does not drain FLT battery; allows design of a more effective and reliable system.

E. INSTALLED EQUIPMENT PERFORMANCE & OPERATIONAL TESTS

APPENDIX C

Federal Aviation Administration ELT Performance Validation Study



U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Aviation Administration

Federal Aviation Administration ELT Performance Validation Study

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration (AIR-120) 800 Independence Ave., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20591 This study has been prepared to validate the data base information used in the NASA study titled "Current Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) Difficiencies and Potential Improvements Utilizing TSO-C91a ELTs" dated 2 July 1990.

It was prepared by ARC Professional Services Group (Mr. Bernard J. Trudell and Mr. Ryland R. Dreibelbis) under Order Number DFTA03-90-00800.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION ELT PERFORMANCE VALIDATION STUDY 15 MAY 1990

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this study was to validate the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) analysis of Emergency Locator Beacon (ELT) performance in aircraft accidents. The NASA analysis was derived from National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) computerized data files that contained information extracted from accident reports completed by NTSB accident investigators. In order to insure that the computerized data did not result in misleading information, the FAA requested a review of at least 100 NTSB Form 6120.4, Aircraft Accident/Incident Reports, to compare the information found in the full report with the data contained in the computer data base.

II. APPROACH

The validation study was initiated with the review and analysis of ten (10) NTSB Form 6120.4 reports that contained a variety of ELT failure causes and crash outcomes related to the occupants of the aircraft involved. These ten reports were used to verify the planned approach that would be used for the validation study.

The selection of individual accident reports reviewed in each failure category was determined by its percentage of the total number of failures in each category of the data base examined. A minimum of two reports was selected for each category.

The examination of the NTSB Aviation Accident/Incident Report was accomplished by a detailed review of blocks 16, (Narrative Statement of Facts, Conditions and Circumstances Pertinent to the Accident/Incident), Blocks 67,68, 69 and 70 (Emergency Locator Transmitter) and Block 213 (Injury Summary) of the basic document. Also, Block 56, (ELT - Reason for Noneffectiveness/Failure) of Supplement A, Supplement I, (Crash Kinematics and Photo documentation) and Supplement M (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) were reviewed. In addition, the individual reports were scanned for special entries concerning ELT performance.

An examination of the 19 reasons for ELT Noneffectiveness listed in Block 56 of Supplement A, revealed that the reasons could be distributed to four general cause categories that identify failure origins. The categories are Poor Design, Lack of Maintenance and Inspection, Beyond Specification and Undetermined. The categories are defined as follows:

- a. Poor Design: Poor design is defined as a failure due to inadequate design specifications of the ELT or its installation.
- b. Maintenance and Inspection: A maintenance and inspection failure is defined as one in which the problem could have been identified and corrected with an effective inspection and maintenance program.
- c. Beyond Specification: A failure attributed to "beyond specification" is one in which the TSO-C91 ELT's operational capability was exceeded.
- d. Undetermined: This category was used whenever the information examined was not specific enough to allow placement of the reason for failure into categories a, b, or c above.

The injury summary (Block 213 of the basic report) was reviewed to identify survivable accidents and to validate the information contained in the NTSB computer data runs that were used as source material for the NASA ELT analysis.

III. FINDINGS:

One hundred sixty-five reasons for ELT failure (some were double entry in the same report) were identified in the 119 NTSB Aircraft Accident/Incident reports examined. The primary reason for failure was selected for each case and distributed as shown in Table 1.

In 12 of the 19 reason categories minor differences existed between the computerized NTSB data base and the information entered in the docket (NTSB Accident Report).

The most significant error in data entry was in number 10, Antenna Broken/Disconnected. In this category the dockets reflected 10 more failures than the NTSB data base. If this error rate exists throughout the entire data base then it is in error by 53 percent, indicating a more serious problem than reflected in the data base.

The validation also disclosed that 26 (22%) of the 119 dockets revealed failures that could have been detected by an effective inspection and maintenance program as opposed to the 12 to 18% identified in the NASA study.

The other differences were considered minor, i.e., not more than three in each reason

category. It was interesting to note, however, that in reason number 1, Operated Effectively, the data base had three entries while the docket had no entries in this category. These errors are probably due to data entry clerical errors.

The number of data entry errors detected in this study appears to be approximately 10 percent, which seems higher than would normally be expected.

TA	BL	E	1

		Number of Primary
		Reasons for Failure
56.	ELT - Reason (s) for Noneffectiveness/Failure	from Docket
	1. Operated Effectively	0
	2. Insufficient "G"	15
	3. Improper Installation	
	4. Battery Dead	3 5
	5. Battery Corroded	1
	6. Battery Installation Incorrect	1 2 2
	7. Incorrect Battery	2
	8 Fire Damage	22
	9. Impact Damage	27
	10. Antenna Broken/Disconnected	15
	11. Water Submersion	7
	12. Unit Not Armed	9
	13. Shielded by Wreckage	1
	14. Shielded by Terrain	
	15. Internal Failure	2 3
	16. Test Satisfactory after Accident	1
	17. Signal Direction Altered by Terrain	1
	18. Packing Device Still Installed	1
	19. Remote Switch Off	2
	17. Remote Ownen Off	-
	Total:	119
	10uu.	

The second step of the validation process categorized each primary reason for noneffectiveness/failure into one of four groups, e.g., Poor Design, Maintenance and Inspection Deficiencies, Beyond Specification and Undetermined. The 119 primary reasons for noneffectiveness were distributed within these four groups or categories as shown in Table 2.

TABLE 2

Cause Category	Number of Reasons	Percentage
Poor Design	29	24%
Maintenance & Inspection	26	22%
Beyond Specification	51	43%
Undetermined	<u>13</u>	11%
Totals	119	100%

Note: The definitions listed in paragraphs II a, b, c and d of this report were used to determine the cause category distribution of each reason for noneffectiveness.

IV. OBSERVATIONS and CONCLUSIONS:

The following observations were derived from examination of 120 NTSB Form 6120.4, Aircraft Accident/Incident Reports:

- Although differences exist between the NTSB data base information and the dockets in 12 of the 19 reasons for ELT noneffectiveness, the variations are minor with the exception of one category. In the Antenna Broken/Disconnected reason, (Number 10) the examination of the dockets revealed that there were 10 more entries than in the data base. This difference of 53 percent, if applied to the NASA predicted improvements (Table 7 contained in the NASA Analysis of ELT Problems report), would increase the overall expected improvement from 73 to 74 percent.
- 2. An improved FAA maintenance and inspection program may be more effective in lowering the ELT failure rate than projected by the NASA study. This validation discovered that 22 percent of the ELTs failed to operate due to pre-crash defects (discrepancies) while the NASA study reflects a 12 to 18 percent rate.
- 3. The docket study results were not significantly different to support alteration of the TSO-C91a ELT benefits prediction.

List of Attachments:

- 1. ELT Performance Validation Charts (24 pages)
- 2. NTSB Form 6120.4, Page 1, Block 16, Narrative Statement of Facts, Conditions and Circumstances Pertinent to the Accident/Incident
- 3. NTSB Form 6120.4, Page 4, Blocks 67, 68, 69, and 70, Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT)
- 4. NTSB Form 6120.4, Page 9, Block 213, Injury Summary
- 5. NTSB Form 6120.4, Sup. A, Page 2, Block 56, ELT-Reason for Noneffectiveness/Failure
- 6. NTSB Form 6120.4, Sup. M, Page 1, Block 12, Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue
- 7. NTSB Form 6120.4, Sup. I, Page 1, Crash Kinematics
- 8. NTSB Form 6120.4, Sup. S, Page 1, Aircraft Occupant and Injured Ground Personnel

				D	OT Report	:
Entropy Parts of Docket Examined (NTSB Form 6120.4): BASIC: Block 16 (Narrative), Blocks 67, 68, 69, 70 (ELT) BASIC: Block 13 (Injury Summary) BASIC: Block 13 (Injury Summary) BASIC: Block 12 (Injury Summary) BASIC: Block 12 (Injury Summary) BASIC: Block 213 (Injury Summary) BASIC: Block 213 (Injury Summary) BASIC: Block 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) BASIC: Block 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) BASIC: Block 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) BASIC: Block 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) BASIC: Block 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) BASIC: Block 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) BASIC: Block 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) BASIC: Block 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) BASIC: Block 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) BASIC: Block 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) BASIC: Block 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) BASIC: BASIC: BASIC: BASIC: BASIC:<	Remarks Water Submersion: Aircraft was involved in a mid-air collision with a helicopter, made an uncontrolled descent and crashed into the East River in N.Y.C The aircraft sank in 40 feet of water. Two passengers escaped. The pilot and another passenger were killed.	Impact Damage: Aircraft crashed during the evening of 12 October killing the pilot and his wife. The pilot's son survived the crash and was located alive the next moming; however, he died after arriving at the hospital.	Impact Damage: Aircraft crashed killing the pilot and two passengers on impact. A third passenger, who was badly burned, died the next day. The report indicated that the fire consumed the aircraft from the firewall to the aft fuselage separation point.	Fire Damage: Aircraft crashed into rising terrain. The pilot was killed on impact. The one passenger was able to walk down the mountainside to obtain help, but later died of injuries.	Impact Damage, Water Submersion and Antenna Broken/Disconnected: Pilot was demonstrating how fast the aircraft was flying at low level over the Niagara River when the aircraft came into contact with the water. The pilot and two rear seat passengers were killed. The right front seat passenger survived.	Water submersion 16 Test satisfactoraly after accident 12. Condition of After aft Occupants at Reacue (Maliple Extry) Unit not armed 17 5 grant direction altered by termin 2 Located alive 6 Able to assist with locating Unit not armed 17 5 grant direction altered by termin 2 Located alive 6 Able to assist with locating Shielded by wreckage 18 Packing device still installed 3 Located alive - died later 8 Left scene - unsuccessful in finding sid Shielded by terrain 19 Remote switch off 4 Diod awaiting rescue 9 Left scene - unsuccessful in finding sid Internal failure A Other 5 Located alive - trapped A Other
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 Parts of Docket Examined (NTSB Form 6120.4): BASIC: Block 16 (Narrative), Blocks 67, 68, 69, 70 (ELT) BASIC: Block 15 (Narrative), Blocks 67, 68, 69, 70 (ELT) BASIC: Block 15 (Narrative), Blocks 67, 68, 69, 70 (ELT) BASIC: Block 15 (Injury Summary) SUP. A: Block 56 (ELT - Reasons for Noneffectiveness) SUP. A: Block 56 (ELT - Reasons for Noneffectiveness) SUP. A: Block 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) Injury Summary Key (Block 213): F- Fatal M Minor S. Serious N None Moneffectiveness Reasons and Category: Oneffectiveness Reasons and Category: Category for Primary Reson for Noneffectiveness 	involved in a minor m ie ELT.	Insufficient "G", Fire and Impact Damage: Aircraft crashed into trees on final approach and was totally destroyed by crash and post crash fire. The docket included antenna broken/disconnected (10) as a reason for noneffectiveness. "G" forces should have been sufficient to activate the ELT.	Insufficient "G"and Unit Not Armed: Aircraft made a hard forced landing shearing one gear and flipping on its back. It hit ground 20 degrees nose down, slid 50 feet and hit a gully, then nosed over. The aircraft occupants were not injured.	Insufficient "G": Aircraft crashed after takeoff into trees. It ended up nose down on the ground. The aircraft was substantially damaged; however, the two occupants were uninjured.	Insufficient "G": Aircraft crashed into hard ground 40 degrees nose down. Pilot was killed. Accident report estimated aircraft hit ground between 60 to 75 MPH. This does not concur with Insufficient "G" as reason for ELT not operating.	Water submersion 16 Test subfactorily after accident 1 Located alive 6 Able to assist with locating Unit not armed 17 Signal direction altered by terrain 2 Located alive 6 Able to assist with locating Shielded by wreckage 18 Packing device still installed 3 1 Located alive - died later 8 1.eff scene - unsuccessful in finding aid Shielded by terrain 19 Remote switch off 4 1.ocated alive - died later 8 1.eff scene - unsuccessful in finding aid Internal failure A Other 5 1.ocated alive - turpped 4 died later
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Parts of I BASIC: B BASIC: B SUP. A: E SUP. A:	NTSB data had Battery Corroded (5), docket had Internal Failure (15) and Battery Corroded: AFRCC report, which was included in docket, had antenna broken, armed but not transmitting. The aircraft collided with mountainous terrain during marginal VFR conditions, killing both aircraft occupants.	NTSB data had Battery Corroded (5) but docket had Antenna Broken/Disconnected (10): The aircraft encountered low ceilings while enroute and collided with the terrain. The pilot was killed on impact.	NTSB data had Battery Installation Incorrect (6). Docket had (6) and Antenna Broken/Disconnected (10): Docket narrative also stated that one pole of the connector was found loose on the circuit board. The aircraft crashed on approach to Talladega Airport on 01/03/86. The aircraft was not located until 01/10/86.	Battery Installation Incorrect: No explanation in narrative of report. The aircraft was apparently flown into an area of 3 to 4 level thunderstorms. The left wing was lost in flight. The aircraft crashed on 23 July and was not located until 25 July.	Insufficient "G": This was a helicopter that was in a high hover when the engine failed. A hover type autorotation was made. Landing was cushioned with collective pitch application. Very little "G" force involved.	Water submersion 16 Test satisfactorily after accident 11 Located alive 6 Able to assist with locating Unit not armed 17 Signal direction altered by termin 2 Located dive 6 Able to assist with locating Shielded by wreekage 18 Packing device still insulled 3 Located alive - died later 8 Left accare - unsuccessful in finding aid Shielded by terrain 19 Remote switch off 4 Died awaiting tescue 9 Left accare - unsuccessful in finding aid Internal failure A Other 5 Located alive - tupped A Other
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And the stand of the stand	Fire Damage: Aircraft crashed into trees shortly after takeoff. The aircraft was demolished by impact and post crash fire. Docket indicated two survivors and two fatal. NTSB data indicated four fatalities. The ELT was not found.	Fire Damage: Aircraft flew into ground at night during a cross country flight from El Monte, CA to Santa Ynez. Aircraft was destroyed by impact and post crash fire. No other ELT information in report. The pilot was killed.	NTSB data entered as Fire Damage. Docket indicated in 56A Fire Damage (8), Impact Damage (9), and Antenna Broken/Disconnected (10): Aircraft crashed into ground during instrument approach procedure. The pilot was killed and the aircraft destroyed by fire and impact.	Fire Damage: The aircraft crashed while attempting an instrument approach procedure. The aircraft was destroyed by crash impact and post crash fire. The pilot was killed. The ELT was so badly burned that the position of the switch could not be determined.	Fire Damage: Aircraft crashed into trees while on a sight seeing flight. Aircraft was destroyed by impact and post crash fire. Both occupants were killed. No additional information on the ELT was included in the report.	Water aubmersion 16 Test satisfactorily after accident 12. Condition of Alrectaf Occupants at Rescue (Multiple Entry) Unit not armed 17 Signal direction altered by termin 2 Located alive 6 Able to assist with locating Shielded by wreetage 18 Packing device stull installed 3 Located alive - died later 8 Left accene - successfully located Shielded by wreetage 19 Remote switch off 4 Died awaiting rescue 9 Left accene - unsuccessful in finding aid Internal failure A Other 5 Located alive - trapped A Other
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 Parts of Docket Examined (NTSB Form 6120.4): BASIC: Block 16 (Narrative), Blocks 67, 68, 69, 70 (ELT) BASIC: Block 213 (Injury Summary) BASIC: Block 213 (Injury Summary) SUP. A: Block 56 (ELT - Reasons for Noneffectiveness) SUP. I: Crash Kinematics and Photo Documentation SUP. M: Block 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) Injury Summary Key (Block 213): F-Fatal M Minor SSerious N None Serious N None Moneffectiveness Pinary Reasons for Noneffectiveness Serious N None Serious Rescue) Pinary Reasons for Noneffectiveness 	Fire Damage: The aircraft was stolen by a non-pilot. He got the aircraft airborne at night, but crashed apparently trying to return to the airport. The aircraft was destroyed by impact and post crash fire. The pilot received fatal injuries. No additional information on the ELT was included in the report.	Fire Damage: Aircraft crashed into trees and high terrain in a slightly left wing - low nose attitude. Fire was apparently present as aircraft crashed through trees. Severe impact damage was also involved. Pilot was killed on impact.	Fire Damage: Aircraft crashed on a road while making an approach to an airport. This fabric aircraft was totally burned. Both occupants were killed by impact and fire. The ELT was located in the cabin which was totally involved in the fire.	Fire Damage: Aircraft experienced an engine failure after airport departure and crashed into a power line during the forced landing. The aircraft was consumed by fire. Both occupants were killed by impact.	Fire and Impact Damage: Aircraft was towing a banner at low altitude when banner caught an electric power line. The aircraft appeared to stall, then landed on a highway, crashing into a truck. Both occupants of the aircraft were killed by impact and fire.	Water submersion 16 Test satisfactorily after accident 11 Located alive 6 Able to satisf with locating Unit not armed 17 17 Signal direction altered by termin 2 Located doceased 7 Left scene - succeasfully located Shielded by wreetage 18 Packing device stull installed 3 Located doceased 7 Left scene - unsucceasfully located Shielded by wreetage 18 Packing device stull installed 3 Located doceased 9 Left scene - unsucceasful in finding aid Shielded by terrain 19 Remote switch off 4 Died awaiting rescue 9 Left scene - unsucceasful in finding aid died later Internal failure A Ober 5 Located alive - tapped A Ober
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Contraction of the second of t	Remarks Fire and Impact Damage: Aircraft crashed into terrain and burned. The pilot was killed on impact.	Fire and Impact Damage: Aircraft crashed into houses while on approach to Logan International Airport in Boston. The aircraft was destroyed and the houses burned. The pilot was killed.	Fire Damage, Impact Damage, and Antenna Broken/Disconnected: Aircraft descended below minimum obstruction clearance altitude in icing conditions and crashed into the terrain. The pilot was killed. The ELT was destroyed with the battery found separated.	Fire Damage, Impact Damage and Antenna Broken/Disconnected indicated by Sup. A 56. However, narrative does not indicate fire existed. Aircraft was destroyed by impact forces and all four occupants were killed.	Data base indicated Impact Damage only but docket Sup. A Block 56 also included Antenna Broken/Disconnected (10), Shielded by Wreckage (13), and Internal Failure (15): The aircraft crashed into a gravel pit 90 degrees nose down, killing the pilot.	Water submerzion 16 Test satisfactonily after accident 11 Located airve 6 Able to assist with locating Unit not armed 17 Signal direction altered by terrain 2 Located doceased 7 Left score - successfully located Shielded by wreckage 18 Packing device still installed 3 Located airve - died later 8 Left score - unsuccessfully located Shielded by terrain 19 Remote switch off 4 Died aweiting rescue 9 Left score - unsuccessful in finding aid died later Internal failure A Other 5 Located alive - trapped A Other
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And	Remarks Impact Damage: The aircraft was flown into the ground while attempting to land during a heavy rainstorm. Impact damage was severe, however, the tail cone and empennage were relatively intact. The ELT should have survived the impact. Two of three occupants were killed.	Impact Damage: Aircraft crashed into trees and terrain in an uncontrolled descent. The student pilot was fatally injured. The investigator could not determine the pre-crash location of the ELT.	Impact Damage: Aircraft crashed into trees and terrain during inclement weather conditions. The pilot and two passengers were killed on impact. The investigator indicated that the aircraft was too badly damaged to determine the pre-crash position of the ELT.	Impact Damage: Aircraft came out of clouds in 45 degree nose down attitude and was flown into ground at high power setting. Aircraft was totally destroyed and the pilot was killed on impact. Pilot may have been drunk.	Data base had Impact Damage. Docket added Antenna Broken/Disconnected: Pilot reported oil on his windshield and requested immediate landing. The aircraft crashed on the airport killing all four occupants.	Water submersion 16 Test anticfactorily after accident 12. Condition of Alrerart Occupants at Rescue Multiple Eury) Unit not armed 17 Signal direction altered by termin 2 Located doceased 7 1 Left scene - auccessfully located Shielded by wreekage 18 Packing device still installed 3 1 Located dive - died later 8 Left scene - unsuccessfull in finding aid Shielded by wreekage 19 Remote switch off 4 Docated alive - died later 8 Left scene - unsuccessfull in finding aid Internal failure A Other 5 Located alive - trapped A Other
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 Parts of Docket Examined (NTSB Form 6120.4); Parts of Dock 13 (Injury Summary) SUP. A: Block 56 (ELT - Reasons for Noneffectiveness) SUP. A: Block 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) Parts of Dock 2131; F-Fatal M Minor S-Serious N None 	Contract Reason for Noneffectiveness Category for Primary Reason for Noneffectiveness Remarks	Improper Installation: No other information in docket. The aircraft crashed during an attempted go-around attempt. The pilot, who was still a student, had approximately 30 hours of dual. He died of crash injuries.	Battery Dead, Fire Damage, Impact Damage, Shielded by Wreckage, Shielded by Terrain: Aircraft crashed into a mountainside after departing Aspen, CO. Report does not indicate how Dead Battery (4) was determined when (8), (9), (13), and (14) were also selected.	Battery Dead and Shielded by Terrain: No explanations on how dead battery was determined. The aircraft was flown into terrain at night and possibly in IFR conditions. The pilot died of crash injuries.	Battery Dead, Antenna Broken/Disconnected, Test Satisfactorily After Accident: The ELT was found separated from the aircraft. Another battery and antenna were connected to the ELT after the accident and the ELT tested satisfactorily. The aircraft had collided with the terrain while on a medical transport flight. The pilot and 5 passengers were killed.	Battery Dead: No explanation included in report. The aircraft apparently had an engine failure after takeoff. The pilot returned to the airport but overshot the runway and crashed, seriously injuring himself and his wife.	Water submersion 16 Test satisfactorily after accident 11. Located alive 6 Able to assist with locating Unit not armed 17 17 11. Can be assist with locating Shielded by wreckage 18 Packing device still installed 3 1 Located alive - died later 8 1. Left scene - successfully located Shielded by wreckage 18 Packing device still installed 3 1 Located alive - died later 8 1. Left scene - unsuccessful in finding aid Shielded by wreckage 18 Packing device still installed 3 1 Located alive - died later 8 1. Left scene - unsuccessful in finding aid Internal failure A 0. Other 5 1. Located alive - trapped A 0. Other
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And the second state of the second	Remarks Antenna Broken/Disconnected: Aircraft crashed one mile short of the landing runway after engine failure. The pilot was seriously injured and his two passengers received minor injuries. The ELT should have survived the crash.	Antenna Broken/Disconnected: Aircraft crashed into terrain killing both the pilot and his passenger. The aircraft was totally destroyed.	Antenna Broken/Disconnected: Aircraft crashed into trees after running out of fuel on approach to airport. The two pilots in the front two seats received minor injuries. A rear seat passenger received serious injuries. The aircraft was destroyed. No fire. The empennage separated from the aircraft.	Antenna Broken/Disconnected: Aircraft crashed into trees near a private airstrip. Both occupants were killed on impact. There was no crash fire. The aircraft was inverted and totally destroyed.	Antenna Broken/Disconnected: Aircraft crashed on takeoff. The pilot and one passenger were killed. A second passenger survived. The aircraft was destroyed on impact with trees and terrain.	Water submersion 16 Test satisfactorily after accident 12. Condition of Alterraft Occupants at Rescue (Multiple Euror) Unit not armed 17 Signal direction altered by termin 2 Located deceased 7 Left accent - successfully located Shielded by wreekage 18 Packing device still installed 3 Located alterraft of later 8 Left accent - unsuccessful in finding aid Shielded by wreekage 19 Remote switch off 4 Died awaiting rescue 9 Left accent - unsuccessful in finding aid Internal failure A Other 5 Located alive - unsuccessful in finding aid - died later
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Parts of Docket Examined (NTSB Form 6120.4): BASIC: Block 16 (Narrative), Blocks 67, 68, 69, 70 (ELT) BASIC: Block 13 (Injury Summary) SUP. A: Block 56 (ELT - Reasons for Noneffectiveness) SUP. A: Block 56 (ELT - Reasons for Noneffectiveness) SUP. A: Block 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) SUP. A: Block 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) SUP. M: Block 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) Dilury Summary Key (Block 213): F- Fatal M Minor S. Serious N None Moneffectiveness and Category: Or Mark 12 (Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue) S. Serious N None	Remarks Water Submersion: Aircraft ran off runway, through overrun and into bay. Pilot had minor injuries. Unable to determine from accident report if aircraft was totally submerged.	Water Submersion: Aircraft crashed into a lake at night. A witness said the aircraft suddenly went straight down into the lake. The aircraft was destroyed and both occupants were killed.	Water Submersion: Aircraft went off the end of the runway on an attempted takeoff, hit an embankment, and then ended up inverted in shallow water (i.e. waist deep). All eight passengers survived.	Water Submersion: Aircraft lost power over Florida Bay and was ditched in shallow water (4 feet). Aircraft remained upright. Both occupants were scriously injured. Docket said aircraft was not submerged and that the ELT had been turned off. Accident was reported to U.S. Customs.	Unit Not Armed: The aircraft lost 6 3/4 inches of one prop blade after takeoff. The pilot tried to return to the departure airport but crashed into trees short of the runway. The pilot was seriously injured but the tail cone and empennage were basically intact.	Water submersion 16 Test satisfactorily after accident 12. Condition of Alternal Occupant al Rescue (Multiple Euror) Unit not armed 17 Signal direction altered by termin 2 Located above 7 Left acces - successfully located Shielded by wreekage 18 Packing device still installed 3 Located above - died later 8 Left acces - successful in finding aid Shielded by wreekage 19 Remote switch off 4 Died awiting rescue 9 Left acces - unsuccessful in finding aid Shielded by termain 19 Remote switch off 5 Located alive - trapped A Other
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Federal Aviation Administration Order No. DTFA03-90-P-00800 REQ/REF No. 9092A025 Validation of NASA ELT Reasons for Failure Analysis Report	Case 101	102	103	104	105	

A to be the second of the s	Unit Not Armed: The pilot accidently stalled the aircraft while chasing a wolverine at low altitude (Alaska) and crashed from a height of approximately 150 ft. The pilot was killed on impact.	Unit Not Armed: The aircraft crashed into a mountainside, fatally injuring both occupants. The ELT was newly installed but the owner said when he installed it, the ELT began to transmit so he turned it off. This was caused by the "G" switch not being reset prior to arming. This was a four day search.	Unit Not Armed: Aircraft crashed shortly after departure, fatally injuring both occupants. The aircraft may have stalled and spun in. The aircraft was enroute to Alaska and was 80 lbs over max gross. There was no additional ELT data in the report.	Shielded by Wreckage (13) however the docket added Antenna Broken/Disconnect (10): The aircraft collided with trees and terrain causing extensive damage. The survivors were not located until the day after the crash. The pilot walked 7 miles for help.	Shielded by Wreckage and Shielded by Terrain: Aircraft crashed into trees on takeoff killing the student pilot. This was an early morning takeoff with possible 800 ft. ceiling.	Water submersion 16 Test satisfactorily after accident 12. Condition of Aircraft Occupants at Rescue (Multiple E-Mrry) Unit not armed 17 Signal direction altered by termin 2 Located alive 6 Able to assist with locating Shielded by wreekage 18 Packing device still installed 3 1 Located alive - died later 8 Left scene - unsuccessful in finding aid Shielded by urerain 19 Remote switch off 4 Died awaiting rescue 9 Left scene - unsuccessful in finding aid Internal failure A Other 0 0 0 0
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viation A 5. DTFA(F No. 90) for Failun Report	12 O	12 O	12 O	13 O	13 14 14	- Reason(s) for Nona Operated effectively Insufficient G's Improper installation Battery dead Battery correded
Federal Aviation Administration Order No. DTFA03-90-P-00800 REQ/REF No. 9092A025 Validation of NASA ELT Reasons for Failure		107	108	109	110	
An A	1		l	<u></u>	I	26. 5 4 3 2 1

	Shielded by Terrain and Test Satisfactorily After Accident: The aircraft crashed on an instrument approach in low ceilings. The pilot was not instrument rated. The pilot survived and his two passengers died. The tail cone was not extensively damaged.	Internal Failure: Aircraft struck power line and trees on go-around. The pilot died of crash injuries. The ELT stayed in its mount in the tail cone. The investigator could not determine why it did not operate. It did radiate in the on position when tested after the accident.	Internal Failure: Aircraft collided with trees while making an instrument approach. The aircraft was destroyed and the pilot was seriously injured. The tail cone of this aircraft, where the ELT was mounted, was basically intact. The ELT should have operated.	Test Satisfactorily After Accident: The engine stopped running at low altitude and right wing caught a tree apparently while the pilot was trying to land in a pasture. The aircraft was destroyed. Both occupants survived, No other ELT information in report.	. = .	Water submersion 16 Test stuid actorily after accident 11 Condition of Aircraft Occupania at Rescue Multiple Ewry) Unit not armed 17 Signal direction altered by termin 2 Located alive 6 Able to assist with locating Shielded by wreetage 18 Packing device still installed 3 Located alive - died later 8 Left scene - unsuccessful in finding aid Shielded by terrain 19 Remote switch off 4 Dicated alive - died later 8 Left scene - unsuccessful in finding aid Internal failure A Other 5 Located alive - trapped A Other
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Federal Aviation Administration Order No. DTFA03-90-P-00800 REQ/REF No. 9092A025 Validation of NASA ELT Reasons for Failure Analysis Report		112	113	114	115	
FOR >KK	L.I	1				2 4 3 5

Part of the second of the seco		Packing Device Still Installed: Aircraft spun in from approximately 2000 ft. Both occupants died of crash injuries.	Data base indicated Packing Device Still Installed (18) but docket indicated Signal Altered by Terrain (17). The docket indicated that the ELT operated. The aircraft developed a severe vibration in flight. The pilot was unable to arrest the descent prior to crash.	Remote Switch Off: Aircraft was making touch and go landings when it was apparently stalled in the pattern. Both occupants received fatal injuries from the resulting crash.	Remote Switch Off: Aircraft was making touch and go landings. It stalled at approximately a 200 ft. altitude after takeoff and spun in. Both occupants were killed on impact.	Water submersion 16 Test satisfactorily after accident 12. Condition of Afrectaf Occupants at Rescue (Maliple Entry) Unit not armed 17 Signal direction altered by tarmin 2 Located alive 6 Able to assist with locating Shielded by wrockage 18 Packing device still installed 3 Located alive - died later 8 Left accene - unsuccessful in finding aid Shielded by unchance 19 Remote switch off 4 Diod awiting rescue 9 Left accene - unsuccessful in finding aid Internal failure A Other 5 Located alive - trapped A Other
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Attacnment DOT Report

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6 Narrative Statement of Facts, (Conditions and Cir	cumstance	es Pertinent to	the Accident/Incid	lent		1			_		
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Page 1

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times in Supp. C	58 Engine No. 2	<u></u>											
59 Type Maintena	ance Program		60 Type of La	nual	ection		•••	e Last Iormed	Inspection	62	Time S	ince in Hou	spection .
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A Other			A Other				<u> </u>	1 Em	rgency Lo		A Oth		
64 Source of Mai	intenance Information	Logboo	ks Records		65 Hazard on Aircr	aft	terials	Tra	insmitter (Yes	No	Other
2 Flight	5		e perator Report		1 No A (Type)				Installed				
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71 Registered Air Name					72 Address								
73 Operator of A	Ircraft 1 Same as re	gistered owne	r 74 4	ddress	1Same	as reg	istered (wner	T	75 Op	erator C	ertifica	te No.
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NTSB Form 6120.4 (Rev. 1-84)

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	175											
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Accident Information	E.											
200 Aircraft Damage	201 Airci	att Fire		202 E	xplosio	n	20	3 Damage	e to Pro	perty	6 Airport	facility
1 None	1	None	e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e	1	No	one		1 🗌 N	lone		7 Trees	
2 Minor	2	n-fliq	ght	2	in In	flight		2 F	lesideni	ce	8 Crops	
3 Substantial	3	On g	round	3	0	n ground		3 F	Resident	tial area	9 Fence	
4 Destroyed	A 0	ther		م	Other			4 C	Commer	rcial bidg.	10 Wires/p	oies
								5 V	enicle(s)	11 Other p	roperty
204 Injury Index (Most of												
1 None 2	Minor		Serious	4	Fata							
									,			
Injury Summary	(aaia) =	A	В		с	D		E				
Enter only one digit per b	IOCKI F	atal	Seriou	5	Minor	None	<u> </u>	Total	217	Classificatio	n	
205 First Pilot			$ \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$					++-+		1 U.S. I	Registered Aircraft	ton U.S. Soil.
206 Co-pilot									ł		ones and Possess	ions, or
207 Dual Student						ļ					ational Waters	
208 Check Pilot							+				Registered Aircraft	on Foreign
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211 Other Crew		:			+ +		\perp				in Operator In Registered Airc	not an U.C.
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213 TOTAL ABOARD					<u> </u>		\perp				ry Aircraft	
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1 None			4	Part/co	mpone	nt #3	1	None	,		4 Part/co	mponent #3
2 Part/component	1 #1		A Othe	er			2		compor	nent #1	A Other	
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222 Part Name												
223 ATA Code												
224 Manufacturer		ļ									Ļ	
225 Mfg. Part #		L		<u> </u>				····			ļ	
226 Mlg. Model #	-	ļ								·		
227 Serial #		L										
228 Part Condition		ļ										
229 Total Time	<u></u>											
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231 TSI		 										
232 Cycles Total		ļ										
233 Cycles Since Overhaul												
234 Cycles Since Inspection		ļ										
235 Service Difficulty Repor Maifunction/Delect Rep Submitted		1	Yes		2	No	1	Yes	2	? No	1 Yes	2 No
			7									
236 Bogus Part		1	Yes		2	NO	1	Yes	2	No	Yes	2 No

NTSB Form 6120.4 (Rev 1-84)

Attachment 5

DOT Report

	National Transportation Safety Board FACTUAL REPORT								TN	SB Acc	:ident/lr	icident l	Number		
	.,		ATIO												
				• •									11		1
Supplement A-		age Doc It (conti	umen nued)	tation	ı, Single	and	Twin	Rec	ipro	catin	g Eng	ine a	nd Un	powei	re d
		Board at Ac			ank Constru				_	Fittings		H Fuel	Leakage/	Rupture	1
Fuel Tanks	A Gailons Estimated	B Gallons Verified	C Other	1 Wet Wing	2 Bladder	3 Metai	E Other	1 Yes	2 No	G Other	None	Line	Fitting	Tank	Other
33 Left Wing														1	<u> </u>
34 Right Wing							1								ļ
35 Left Tip								L			ļ		ļ		1
36 Right Tip															
37 Fuselage	<u>.,</u>														
38 (Specily)															
2 Lines 3 Gascolator/: 4 Carburetor/! 5 Engine drive 6 Auxiliary fue 43 Filght Controls, Evidence or Operational Failure or Malfunction (Multiple entry) 1 None 2 Pitch control 3 Roll control	44 Airfi 44 Airfi 44 Airfi 44 Airfi 40 1 [2 [3 [4 [5 [9 r 10 A Ott rame/Structs httple entry)] None] Helicopter	Accumulator tank Accumulator tank Accumulator tank Carbureto Carbureto					tor/strainer 9 Fuel manifold/spider tor/fuel injector 10 Accumulator tank triven pump 10 Accumulator tank 45 Propeller, Evidence of In-Flight 46 Separation/Failure 1 Yes 1 Yes 1 Yes 2 No 2 No A Other A Other A Other						dence	
4 🔲 Yaw control		, Evidence		oper Gr	de or Cor	teminal	ion 4				mprope	r Grade	or Conti	minatio	n
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Emergency	U		فينبيها ال			م. منطق									
51 ELT Manufacturer			52 EL1	' Model	No.			-	2		Dockpit		on(s) (Muli	upie enti	(y)
A Other				Other						2 🗖	Cabin		5 🗌 Ra		
53 ELT Battery Type			54 ELT	Battery	Expiration	Date (/	vos. for	M, D.	Y)		Tailcone Empenn		6 🔲 Su A Other		it
1 🔲 Alkaline 2 🔲 Cadmium	4 🗌 Ni 5 🔲 Lii	thium	A O	ther						4 🛄	Empenn	aye	A Other		
3 Nicad 56 ELT-Reason for No 1 Operated ef 2 Insufficient 3 Improper in 4 Battery deal 5 Battery corr	fectively G's stallation d		ery insti prrect ba damage act dam	allation i ittery age	incorrect	12 🗌 13 🔲 14 🔲	Water s Unit no Shielde Shielde Interna	t arme d by v d by t	ed wrecka errain	11 age 18 19	7 🗖 Sig 3 🗍 Pa	gnal dire	actorily al ection alte evice still vitch off	red by t	errain

NTSB Form 6120.4 Supplement A (1-84)

Attachment 6 DOT Report

		-	NTCR Accident/Incident Num	her
Na	tional Transportation Safety Board		NTSB Accident/Incident Num	lver
	FACTUAL REPORT AVIATION			
				Le R
Supplement I—Cras	h Kinematics			
1 Accident Site Geographi	ic Coordinates—Latitude (Multiple entry)	2 Accident Site Ge	ographic Coordinates—Longit	ude (Multiple entry)
1 🔲 North	A deg minutes	1 🗖 East	Ad	eg minutes
2 🔲 South	B Other	2 🔲 West	B Other	
3 Impact Sequence I None 1 None 2 Rock face 3 Rigid structure 4 Rocks to 1' diam 5 Rocks 2' diam 6 Rocks > 2' diar	11 Trees/limbs 6"-9" diam.	14 🔲 Frangible ap	proach aid 20 V le approach aid 21 V obstacle 22 F	Runway light Vater Vire Pole Snow bank
Terrain at Principal Impa None Wet cultivated soil Dry cultivated soil Dry packed clay Boggy swampy	6 Packed snow 11 7 Loose snow 12 8 Concrete 13 9 Asphait 14 10 Loose rock 15	Dry sod Wet sod Water Tundra Dirt	16 - Rock 17 - Ice 18 - Mud 19 - Sand A Other	
Principel Impact Kiner	natics			
5 Airspeed At Impact (Enter 1 □ 0-15 2 □ 15-30 3 □ 30-45 4 □ 45-60	direct or mark estimated range) 6 75-90 11 210 plus knots 7 90-120 A Knots 8 120-150 B Other 9 150-180 0 180-210	6 Flight Path Angle (1 Up 2 Down 3 0-5 4 5-10 5 10-15	7 🔲 20-25 🛛 A	ange) 60-90 Degrees Other
7 Pitch Attitude At Impact (E	Enter direct or mark estimated range.)			
Pitch Attitude	Nose Down Angle With Horizon		Nose Up Angle With Horizon	
1 🔲 Down 2 🗍 Up		0 🗆 15 🗔 30 🗆		B or Other
ADeg.	90 [] 75 [] 60 [] 45 [] 30 [] 15 []			
8 Roll Attitude At Impact (En	ter direct or mark estimated range.)			
Roll	Aircraft Rolled Left		rcraft Rolled Right	
1 🔲 Left 2 🔲 Right		-		B or Other
ADeg				
TSB Form 6120.4 Su	90 75 60 45 30 15 90 15 90 90 30 15 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90			Page 1

NTSB Form 6120.4 Supplement I (1-84)

Attachment 6 (Continued) DOT Report

	Natio	nal Tran	sportat	tion Saf	ety Boa	rd		N	TSB Accid	ent/In	ciden	it Numi	ber	
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							· · · - · - · - · - · - · - · - · -	1		1				
Supplement 1-0														
9 Yaw Attitude at Impa	ct (Enter	direct or ma	ark estima	ted range.	.)									
1 🗌 Nose left 2 🔲 Nose right									Yawed Rig	B Othe	or r			
A Deg.		90 🗌 75 🔲 60 💭 45 💭 30 🔲 15 💭 0 💭 15 💭 3											1	
10 Terrain Angle		11 Principa	I Impact	Ground Sc	ar Length	12 Prin	cipal Impa	ct Grour	nd Scar De	pth			Totally De	
1 🗌 Level A Upde B Downd	g.	11 Principal Impact Ground Scar Length 12 Principal Impact : None 1 A feet A B Other B									2	Ve No Other	s (Go to bl	ock 36)
C Other				5 FWD Ca	abin Dama	ge (Multip	ole entry)	7	16 AFT C	abin D	amaç	je (Mul	tiple entry)	<u> </u>
1 Destroyed 2 Collapsed 3 Part collapse	5 6 ed 7	5 Burnt 1 Destroyed 5 Burnt 1 Destroyed 6 intact 2 Collapsed 6 intact 2 Collapsed 7 None 3 Part collapsed 7 None 4 Divided								5 🗌 Bu 6 🗌 Inti 7 🗌 No A Other	act			
4 Distorted 17 Fuselage Split	A	Other 18 Fu	seiage Sp	lit Behind		19 Fus	elage Coll		timated)	20		elage C		
1 INO (Go to b 2 ILongitudinal 3 ICircumferen	1	A	Other		-	A B	None Horizonta Vertical Other		inches inches		А і В 1	Nor Horizor Vertical Other	ntal	
A Other			••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••		en ne da en la La compositione da la compositione La compositione da la compositione d									
		и Туре с	and and a state		04	C Operable			E Fire Dama	ge			G Impact Da	mage
Exit Location							ł		2	Ì	F	1	2	н
LUCESON	1 Door	2 Window	3 Hatch	B Other	1 Yes	2 No	D Other	1 Yes	No	1	her	Ye	-	Other
21 Cockpit-Left				ļ	L		<u> </u>							
22 Cockpit Right				ļ	ļ									
23 1L														
24 1R				ļ			<u> </u>	ļ					_	_
25 2L				ļ			ļ			+				
26 2R				<u> </u>			<u> </u>					<u> </u>		
27 3L					<u> </u>		<u> </u>		<u> </u>			<u> </u>		
28 3R					<u></u>					_				
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30 4R					ļ		ļ	 	_					
31 5L								ļ				<u> </u>		
32 5R					ļ		<u> </u>	<u> </u>				<u> </u>		
33 6L					L	ļ		ļ	_	<u> </u>		<u> </u>		
34 6R			<u> </u>	<u> </u>						!				Page 2

NTSB Form 6120.4 Supplement I (1-84)

OF FOOR OVALITY

Attachment 7 DOT Report

								I Kept		
Natio	nal Transporta	tion Sa	fety Board		N	TSB Accident	Incident	Number		
	FACTUAL AVIAT		ORT							
						1 1 1		I F		
Supplement M—Searc	ch/Rescue/Fire	fightin	g/Medical	Freatment						
Search and Rescue	1 🗌 None Conduc	ted (Go ti	o block 16)	÷						
2 Type of Search Conducted (Aultiple entry)			4 Search Age	•					
	🔲 Sea					s. lor M. D. Y)				
2 Ground 4	🔲 Informal			в	Local tim	re				
A	Other			C Other						
5 Aircraft/Occupants Located			ir Patrol Involve	d in Search		1 _ '		uard Person	nel involved	
A (Nos. for M.	D. Y)					1 🗌 Ye				
B Local time		2 🗆 t	ю			2 🗌 No				
C Other	A Othe	er			A Other					
9 Distress Call Transmitted	10 Distress C		ved	11 Method of	Locating	Accident Site	(Multipi	e entry)		
(Multiple entry)	(Multiple)	entryi		1 🗆 ELT						
1 None transmitted	1 None transmitted 1 None r				adio		7 🗖	Visual sight	nting of signal/	
	2 Prior to accident 2 Prior to				radio			smoke/fire		
3 After impact/accident	3 🗖 Afte	r impact/	accident	4 🛛 UHF	radio		8 🗖	SAR satell	ite	
A Other	A Other	,		5 🗖 Visu	al sighting	of wreckage	9 🗖			
A Office						of occupant:			0	
12 Condition of Aircraft Occupa	Ints at Rescue (Mult	ipie entry	,			<u> </u>	13 Weath	er Conditio	ns-Indicate	
1 Located alive	6 🗆	Able to	assist with locat	ing					nperature/Wind uring Search	
2 Located deceased,	7 🗖	Left sce	ne-successfully	located					• F	
3 Located alive-died late	r 8 🗖	Left sce	ne-unsuccessfu	I in finding aid					tor ° F	
4 Died awaiting rescue			ne-unsuccessfu		-died later	r i				
5 Located alive-trapped	A O			5			CO	iner		
Fire Fighting 16 🗌 No	ne Conducted (Go	to block	31)							
17 Firefighting Unit Notified	8 First Firefighting	Unit	19 Firefightin	g Units	20 Firefig	hting Units A	ssisted 2	1 Fire Extin	iguished	
(Nos. for M. D. Y)	Arrived		Respondin		Evacua				_ Local time	
A	Loc	al time	(Multiple e	ntry)						
			1 🗖 Airpe	ort	2 🗆 /	No		A Other		
B Local time	A Other		2 🗌 Muni	cipal	A Oth	er				
C Other			3 🗖 Milita	ary						
C Other			A Other							
· ·			A	Available	•		(C Used		
Firefighting Agents			1 Yes	2 No	B Other	1 Yes		2 No	D Other	
22 Protein Foam										
23 Dry Chemical										
24 Carbon Dioxide						_				
25 AFFF (Lite Water)				·						
26 Water										
26 (Specify)		-								
									Page 1	

NTSB Form 6120.4 Supplement M (1-84)

Attachment 8 DOT Report

1

		Transportation Safety	Board			NTS	B Accid	ent/incide	nt Number		
Natio								1 1	<u>.</u>	1 1 1	
Supplement S-Airc	raft (Occupant and Injured	Grou	nd Person	nel				Degree of	Iniury	
	8 Seat	C Address	D Crew	E Passenger	F Non Occup		G FAA	4 Fatal	3 Serious	2 Minor	1 None
A Name	No.	(City & State)	CIE#								
1											
2											
3											
4											
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21					+						
22		+	+					+			
23	+		+				-				
23											Page

NTSB Form 6120.4 Supplement S (1-84)

ATTACHMENTS

- Excerpt from the House of Representatives, 1st Session, Report 99-212. Department of Housing and Urban Development Independent Agencies Appropriation Bill, 1986, Page 44.
- 2. NTSB form 6120.4, Sup. A, Page 1, Block 56, ELT Reason for Noneffectiveness/Failure.
- 3. FAA ELT Field Test Procedure/Data Sheet.
- 4. Alaskan ELT Survey, Letter from Alaskan Region FAA Office to HQ ARRS, Scott AFB, Illinois, dated December 30, 1987.

1st Session

99–212

Attachment 1

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT-INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATION BILL, 1986

JULY 18, 1985.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. BOLAND, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 3038]

The Committee on Appropriations-submits the following report in explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1986, and for other purposes.

INDEX TO BILL AND REPORT

	Page nu	ımber
	Bill	Report
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Title II—Independent Agencies:	13	19
American Battle Monuments Commission	13	19
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Cometerial Expenses, Army	15	
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Office of Science and Technology Policy	17	30
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Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation	31	51
Neighborhood Relivestillent Corporation	31	51
Selective Service System	32	52
Department of the Treasury	32	$52 \\ 53$
Veterans Administration	01	

50-177 O

In connection with the ongoing search and rescue program, the Committee is pleased that NASA has progressed to an operational status and supports the continued carriage of search and rescue instruments on National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration polar orbiting weather satellites. The Committee also strongly supports the NASA concept of a backup satellite carrying search and rescue instruments which was described in hearings on the 1986 appropriation. This satellite would ensure that the United States' commitments to the international search and rescue program could be met even if an early failure of the NOAA satellite or a search and rescue instrument occurred. It is understood that a study is underway to examine the feasibility and cost of a backup satellite, and the Committee requests that NASA provide a copy of the study when it is completed. Further, the Agency is urged to proceed with the development of this satellite as soon as possible so that United States' international commitments can be met.

The Committee also recognizes and supports the continuing NASA effort to provide for system improvements such as the development of new distress transmitters, specifically designed for satellite detection, global coverage, and the possibility of instantaneous detection using geosyncronous satellites. It is hoped that this work will proceed as rapidly as technology will permit.

Finally, the Committee strongly urges that some improvements to the presently deployed emergency locator transmitters should be addressed. It is not satisfactory that units with a false alarm rate of over 97 percent and a non-activation rate of 70 percent continue to be mandated by the Federal government when an improved technical standard has been developed and can be provided for respective satellite monitoring. It is recognized that NASA cannot initiate the necessary administrative action to mandate improved transmitters, but as the developer of the satellite system, NASA should urge the Federal Aviation Administration to proceed and should make available technical expertise to support any FAA initiative in this area.

SPACE FLIGHT CONTROL AND DATA COMMUNICATIONS

1985 appropriation	\$3,601,800,000
Estimate, 1986	3,509,900,000
Recommended in bill	3,402,900,000
Decrease below estimate	-107.000.000

The space flight control and data communications account includes the program elements that provide for the national fleet of space shuttle orbiters, including main engines, launch site and mission operations, control requirements, initial spares, production tooling, and related supporting activities. This account also provides the standard operational support services for the space shuttle and the expendable launch vehicles, and includes tracking, telemetry, command, and data acquisition support required to meet all NASA flight projects.

The Committee recommends a total of \$3,402,900,000 for this activity in fiscal year 1986. This is a decrease of \$107,000,000 below the budget request and is \$198,900,000 below the 1985 appropria-

11:33:3	QHFLE1E6	=			×			
	GUE DATE	07/15/35	ds for emergency both a standards and on and Admiral	ise alarn ted a furnish e srview of the sr no i no tied a	11/01/86		opriate existing scope Science Insti- will aid such future is of the	. As of , no change. el ayed to
	A55161E0 10	EC/Nneuse	r on developing slandar ate with the EFARS and idence between Dr. Edels	the FAM in taking action to leprove the false al s in progress. MIGA has officially proposed a coeflicit this. As a lirst step, MIGA will furnis advantages and disadvantages of alternalive ess the problem. FAM has informally indicated tess the problem. FAM has informally indicated is effort. Since this action is under the purview be established by the FAM. As of 12/17/80, no s of 127/87, letter in EPS. As of 3/4.87, no As of 10/7/87, they still have not identified a As of 10/7/87, they still have not identified a	El/fellerin		sullation with the Apor alions of the Space Tele analytical report that 2/22/65 with S. W. ly post-launch operation	ressigned to EZ 12/1/86. o change. As of 1/5/87. nge. As of 4/14/87, no 8/28/87, report date d inge.
свинастоя стана стана стана на стана стана стана и стана и и стана и и и и и и и и и и и и и и и и и и	1116	MASA/FAA.Research.Work	SOURCE: Required by House Appropriations 99-212, dated B/28/B5, p. 44 DESCRIFIION: Congress requested that NASA and the FAA work together on developing standards for eergency beacons. This problem is one of a high false alarm rate with the EFRKS and both a standards and technical problem. There has been numerous correspondence between Dr. Edelson and Admiral Engen of the FAA.	SIMIUS: As of 12/5/86, the request to assist the FAM in taking action to leprove the false alara rate of 121.5 Wit evergency beacons is in progress. MAGA has officially proposed a technical program with the FAM to accomplish this. As a lirst step, MAGA will furnish technical support in identifying the advantages and disadvantages of alternative approaches to the problem develop recommendations, including cost considerations and altestones to address the problem FAM has informally indicated its will ingress to nort with MAGA on this effort. Since this action is under the purview of the FAM, the schedule of altestones will be established by the FAM. As of 12/17/86, no change. As of 1/2/81, no change. As of 1/29/87, including the section. As of 1/2/87, no change, FAM has action. As of 8/18/81, no change. As of 10/1/87, no change, FAM has action. As of 8/18/81, no change. FAM has action. As of 8/18/87, no change, FAM has action.	51.Eacly.Operations.Esperience.Asport	SOURCE: Nouse of Representatives Authorizing Appropria- tions to NúSA for FY 1986 (Report 95-32, dated 3/28/85, p. 22)	DESCRIFIIDNL The Subconsittee further recommends that NASA in consultation with the appropriate existing advisory groups consciously document the early operations of the Space Telescope Science Insti- tute with a view toward producing and publicing an analytical report that will aid such future space science activitles. Conmiteent per areling of 2/22/65 with S. W. Keller, R. Everly and J. Madison. Report on the early post-launch operations of the Si Science Institute by January 15, 1980.	SIAIUS: Launch dale is 1988. Report due i year after launch. Reassigned to EZ 12/1/86. As of 12/5/86, response is awaiting launch. As of 12/17/86, no change. As of 1/5/87, no change. As of 1/30/87, no change.
	COHALI NENF	١٧-98			86-7d			

OF POOR QUALITY

Attachment 2

	National									SB Acc	ident/li	ncident	Number		
	FA				11								J 1		[<u>.</u>
Supplement A	-Wreck	age Doo it (conti	umen	itation	i, Single	and	Twin	Rec	ipro	cating	3 Eng	jine a	and Un	powe	rea
		Board at Ac	_		ank Constru	iction		FSO	illsafe	Fittings		H Fue	I Leakage	Rupture	
Fuei Tanks	A Gallons Estimated	B Gallons Venfied	C Other	1 Wet Wing	2 Bladder	3 Metal	E Other	1 Yes	2 No	G Other	1 None	2 Line	3 Fitting	4 Tank	l Other
33 Left Wing															
34 Right Wing															
35 Left Tip															
36 Right Tip															
37 Fuselage															
38 (Specify)															
41 Fuel Found In #1 E 1 None 2 Lines 3 Gascolator/: 4 Carburetor/: 5 Engine drive 6 Auxiliary fue 43 Flight Controls, Evidence or Operational Failure or Malfunction (Multiple entry) 1 1 None 2 Pitch control	strainer fuel injector en pump el pump 44 Airfr (Mul 1 1 2 1 3 1 4 1	7 8 9 10 A Ott ame/Structu tiple entry) None Helicopter General dis Left wing	ure, Evid (Compl sintegra	r valve Inifold/s ulator ta ence of l ete Supj	nnk In-Filght Seg 7 [] p. G) 8 [] 9 [] 10 []	1 2 3 4 5 6 0 0 aration/ Right st Vertical Canard Powerp	No Lin Ga Ca En Au: Failure ab/elev fin/rud	ne es scolati rbureti gine di xiliary ator der	or/stra or/fue fuel p 45 P 0 S 1 2	i injecto bump	pr 1 , Eviden ht n/Failu	7 F 8 S 9 F 0 A 0 A 0 the	elector va uel manifo ccumulato r 46 Power;	vid/spide or tank blant, Evi ight Med ction 'es	dence
3 Acii control 4 Yaw control		Right wing Left stab/e	evator		.11 🔲 A Oth	er	-								
A Other	(<i>Mult</i> 1 🗖	Evidence of tiple entry) None Improper		3	Ide or Cont Contam Other			(<i>Mul</i> 1	tiple e Noi	ntry)		з 🗆	or Contar Contarr Ither		
Emergency Locato	r: Transm	ties (EL)	Inter						~ r.*.		. 1		- X-14	al an	
51 ELT Manufacturer			52 ELT	Model I	No.				55	Preimp		Locatio	on(s) (Mull	iple entr	y)
A Other 53 ELT Battery Type 1 Alkaline 2 Cadmium 3 Nicad	4 🗌 Nic 5 🔲 Litt A Other	ikel nium	A Ot	her	Expiration	Date (N	os. for M	- й, D, Y	7		abin ailcone		5 🔲 Ra 6 🔲 Su A Other	rvival Ki	t
56 ELT-Reason for No 1 Operated eff 2 Insufficient (3 Improper ins 4 Battery dead 5 Battery correct	fectively G's stallation	6 🔲 Batte 7 🔲 Incoi 8 🔲 Fire (9 🗍 Impa	ery insta rrect bat damage ct dama	llation in tery .ge	ncorrect	12 🗌 l 13 🗌 9 14 🔲 9	Shieldeo Shieldeo	armed d by w d by te	d reckai rrain	17 ge 18 19	Sig	nal dire king di	actorily af ection alte evice still f vitch off	red by te	

NTSB Form 6120.4 Supplement A (1-84)

Attachment 3

ELT FIELD TEST PROCEDURE/DATA SHEET

1. Is the ELT mounted rigidly in all axes and in the direction for crash activation? YES _____, NO _____

Describe mounting:

2. Determine the position(s) of the ELT switch and remote switch, if installed. Remove the ELT from the aircraft. Switch(es) should be in the off position before removing.

ELT SWITCH: ON ____, OFF ___, ARMED___, OTHER ____ REMOTE SWITCH: ON ____, OFF ____, ARMED____, CTHER ____

3. Perform a functional check by activating the ELT with a quick rap from the palm of the hand in the direction of force activation. (The EBC 302 and TSO-C91a ELT's can be activated by using a forward throwing motion coupled by a rapid reversing action. The ARNAV ELT-100 also requires jumping pins Nos. 5 & 8). Turn off the ELT as soon as the ELT's signal is verified by any convenient means:

OK _____, Not OK ____

4. Inspect the mounting, the ELT, and disassembled battery pack for corrosion, defects, etc. Photograph the best view(s) of the ELT and battery pack. OK _____, Not OK _____

5. Connect the reassembled ELT to a wattmeter. Wrap the ELT and connections in aluminum foil to minimize the emission of spurious RF energy. Activate the ELT for three minutes and record power output: Start mw ______ Finish mw ______ This should be greater than 75mw (50mw for TSO-C91a).

6. After removing foil, secure the ELT to the G-switch go/no go test fixture. Perform the G-switch test with the ELT armed; the point of activation is verified by use of the wattmeter or any other convenient means (see operating instructions).

ACTIVATED WITHIN LIMITS: YES ____, NO ____

IF NO: TRAVEL ABOVE/BELOW HIGH ____ LOW ____ LIMIT SWITCH ____ IN.

Note: Operation of the test fixture (cannot be used for TSO-C91a) requires some set-up technique and should be demonstrated to personnel who are using it for the first time.

7. Inspect antenna(s), wire terminals, etc: OK ____, Not OK ____

8. Reinstall the ELT. Turn on the ELT (use remote switch if installed) and determine if the antenna(s) radiates a strong signal. The signal can be heard through an AM broadcast receiver (any frequency) held about 6 inches away from the antenna(s). A field strength meter may also be used to measure a radiated field of a least 1 volt/meter or equivalent.

9. Reset the ELT: OK _____

ELT FIELD TEST PROCEDURE/DATA SHEET

Location Date Person p	erforming the test		
<u>AIRPLANE</u> Manufacturer Model # Reg # Inspection Program Last Insp Date Ops/hrs Last Insp			
<u>ANTENNA</u> Location Manufacturer Model # Ser # Part # TSO #			
<u>ELT</u> Location Manufacturer Weight Model # Ser # Part # TSO # Installation Date		PHO HER	'ACH TO(S) E
BATTERY PACK Manufacturer Model# Ser # Part # TSO # Expiration Date Installation Date			
REMOTE SWITCH, if i COMMENTS/RECOMMENDA		F ITEMS NOT OK	

Attachment 4





Federal Aviation Administration Alaskan Region

7500-43 4510 V. Tax'l. Airport 2004. 1u: Anthoraga, Alanza 99502-1088

December 30, 1987

Colonel Robert Michaelson Headquarters ARRS Scott AF3, IL 62225-5009

Dear Colonel Michaelson:

As per conversation with Gary Bennett of Northern Lights Avionics, I am enclosing the ELT check results collected throughout 1987. I've also included some FCC and NTSB data that might be of assistance.

I would also advise that you contact Phillip J. Akers, Engineering Division-Aircraft Cartification, FAA-DOT, AWS-120, 300 Independence Avenue SW, Washington D.C. 20591. I have been providing Mr. Akers the same information for possible preparation of notice of proposed rulemaking concerning testing standards for ELT's. Our program in Alaska apparently has caused a lot of concern and interest from all angles, and it would be more significant if all similarly concerned parties could unite their efforts.

Please let me know what I can do to further assist you.

Sincerely,

View lin

Valerie Aron Accident Prevention Specialist

Eaclosures

CC: Philip J. Akers

DATE

ELT TEST RESULTS

NARCO	OK		
POINTER	DEAD BATTERY		4/4/87
SHARC-7	OK		4/4/87
NARCO	BATTERIES NOT HOOKED UP		4/4/87
E3C 102	1969 BATTERY		4/4/87
EBC 102A	EXPIRES 1/1/87		4/5/87
EBC 102	OK		4/5/87
POINTER	NO "G" ACT		4/5/87
NARCO ELT-10	INCE-SENT TO FACTORY CAUSES INTERFERENCE IN RADIOS/RETURNED_FACTORY	50982	4/5/87
POINTER 3000	CAUSES INTERFERENCE IN RADIOS/RETURNED-FACTORY	326264	
LARACO	DEAD BATTERIES	7241	
SHARC-7	DEAD BATTERIES	14083	
POINTER C-4000		401390	
SHARC-7	DEAD BATTERIES	145923	
POINTER 3000	CAUSES INTERFERENCE/CUSTOMER DISCONNECTED ANT &	142922	
	USED PERSONAL ELT		
POINTER 3000	CAUSES INTERFERENCE/SENT TO FACTORY	326252	
POINTER 3000	CAUSES INTERFERENCE/SENT TO FACTORY	322096	
CIRII-2	INOP/SENT TO FACTORY	25455	
DM ELT 1-3	CORRECTED-"G" SWITCH BROKEN/ ANTENNA MOUNT LOOSE	رز ب رک /	
	SWITCH WON'T STAY ON		
CEROMALLOY	LOW POWER/ DOWNSWEEP WRONG RATE/ POSSIBLE LOW		
	BATT. / UNABLE TO MEASURE DUE TO DESIGN		
E3C 102A	DEAD BATTERIES (6 MONTHS LEFT)		
E3C 102A	DEAD BATTERIES/ BATTERY EXPIRED 10 YEARS AGO		
MARTECH	BATTERY CONNECTION LOOSE/ PLUG FELL OFF WHEN		
-	TOUCHED/ PINS ON BATTERY SMASHED OPEN AND NOT		
	GRASPING CONNECTOR		
DM ELT-6	LOW POWER/BATTERIES WEAK/WOULD NOT COME UP TO		
	VOLTAGE		
NARCO ELT-10	INOP		
SHARC-7	"G" SWITCH INOP/ UNIT CORRODED		
SHARC-7	UNIT IN OFF POSITION IN AIRCRAFT/ CHECKED OK		
	INOP/BATTERY DEAD & OUT OF DATE	10918	
MARTECH EB-2BLD		660095	
LARAGO	NO SWEEP/POWER 1/2/ BATTERY OK/SENT TO FACTORY	7147	6/24/87
NARCO	T-TERMINAL LOOSE/ PC BOARD CORRODED	48180	6/24/87
DM ELT-6	INOP/ BATTERIES EXPLIED UNIT ACTS IN AUTO/ TRASHED	48180	6/24/87
EBC-102	WON'T TURN ON/SENT TO FACTORY	64482	8/13/87
DM	INOP/BATTERIES OK/ TRASHED	33637	5/11/87
POINTER	BATTERIES OK/ POWER 70 mW/CUSTOMER SEND TO FACTORY		7/27/87
DM	'G' SWITCH RATTLING AROUND/CENTER PIN COAX STILL	10,121	1/21/01
5.1	IN FEMALE	499	7/1/87
COM. COMPONENTS	ALWAYS ON/SENT TO FACTORY	4709	7/2/87
POINTER 3000	COMPLETELY RUSTED/THROW AWAY	313949	7/7/87
SHARC-7	NO "G" ACTION/"G" SWITCH LOOSE/POWER LOW		1/1/01
LARAGO	DIDN'T GO OFF IN ACCIDENT/LEADS CORRODED OFF/	153857	
	REPAIRED AND REPLACED BATTERY		
CIR-10-30		2847	7/15/87
RESCUE 88		NSN	7/17/87
POINTER 3000		75C6265	
COLATER 2000	INCE/FIALD ATTILLA/DAD FINAL	320175	7/27/87
			1 M 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1

CREATING PACE IS OF FUCE QUALITY

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		S/N	DATE
MAKE/MODEL	RESULTS	7860	8/7/87
LARAGO	INOP/TRASHED		8/7/87
LARAGO	INOP/TRASHED	323378	8/7/87
POINTER	INOP/SENT TO FACTORY REPLACED BATTERIES & CHECK FREQUENCY/BATTS DEAD	145135	
SHARC-7	REPLACED BATTERIES & CHECK THE MISSING	322509	5/11/87
POINTER 3000	INOF/BAD CLACTIC USE THAN, COMPANY AND SATTERY EXPLODED/TRASHED	3693	• · • • ·
DART	BAD BATTERIES	9283	5/27/87
LELT-1005-AF	BAD GALLANDS TRANSISTER REPLACED	405531	5/26/87
POINTER 4000	INOP/SENT TO FACTORY	30332	6/1/87
E3C 1024	BATTERY INOP		9/1/8/
CHROMALLOY ACR/		30660	6/3/87
203-101	NO TEST POSITION	1768	6/4/87
E3C 102C	CORRODED/INOP/TRASHED	10985	6/10/87
DART II NARCO-ELI-10			6/14/87
NARCO-ELI-10	BATTERY DEAD/CORROSION/CLEANED & ALLEADED CHILDE	13221	
COM. COMPONENTS		145927	6/19/87
SHARC-7	INCP/TRASHED INCP/BATTERYSBOARD CORRODED/DATE STILL OK	316079	6/23/87
POINTER	INCP/SATTERY GOOD/SAD OSC TRANX	3564	6/23/87
SHARC-7	INOP/JATIERY CORRODED/1 YEAR LEFT	135415	6/24/87
SHARC-7	INOP	134869	9/11/87
SHARC-7	INOP/BAD BOARD	1216	9/13/87
DM ELI-6	INOP/SENT TO FACTORY INOP/SENT TO FACTORY INOP/BATTERY DEAD, FINAL SHORTED/REPLACED BOTH	313721	9/18/87 9/18/87
POINTER		20383	9/23/87
CIR-II-2		319272	9/28/87
POINTER		315479	10/29/87
POINTER		317278	10/16/87
POINTER	LOW OUTPUT/INTERFERENCE WITH UNF/SENT TO FACTORY LOW OUTPUT/INTERFERENCE WITH UNF/SENT TO FACTORY	316536 20383	9/14/879
POINTER	The second provide the second pr	322656	10/2/87
CIR-II-2	ALA DATTER / BAD FUNAL/ KERLAULU DOLL	53554	
POINTER	ANSTED OUT / INCP / THROWN ANAL	36509	
NARCO-ELT-10	ACTIVATED ALL THE TIME	60271	10/27/87
NARCO-ELT-10	OSC INOP/SENT TO FACTORY	••••	10/28/87
NARCO-ELT-10	OF CONTRACT OF CONTRACT.	56711	10/28/87
EBC 102A NARCO-ELT-10	BAD ON/OFF/BATTERY 100-00/04	64467G	10/28/87
EBC 102	WORKS FINE/OUT OF DATE	OK	10/28/87
NARCO-ELI-10	11654	7391	10/28/87
LARAGO ELEC	OK	32G3	10/28/87
EBC 102A	OK		10/28/87
EBC 102A	BATTERY OUT OF DATE	62077GB	10/28/87 10/28/87
E3C 10ZA	OK	56711	10/28/87
NARCO-ELT-10	OK BATTERY DATE OK/VOLTAGE 6V SEPTEMBER BATTERY/OPERATIONAL	64467A	10/28/87
E3C 102	SEPTEMBER BALLARY OF DATE	N/A	10/20/0/
E3C 102A	BATTERY OUT OF DATE	****	11/3/87
	• "	5687 146982	11/3/87
SHARC-7	OK OK/BATTERY EXPIRED 9/87	148982 6845	11/3/87
SHARC-7		6854	11/3/87
EBC 102A	OK OK	318494	11/4/87
E3C 102A		13775	11/4/87
POINTER 3000	INOP EAGLE-BATTERY OUT OF DATE/USED AS PERSONAL ELT	• • • • •	11/4/87
MARTECH EB-23CD	OK		11/5/87
E3C 102A	0K	N/A	11/05/87
EBC 102	BATTERY OUT OF DATE	N/A	11/5/87
EBC 102	BATTERY OUT OF DATE	,	11/5/87
EBC 102 EBC 102	OK/BATTERY OUT OF DATE		
13U 1V4			

MAKE/MODEL	RESULTS	S/N	DATE
E3C 102A	OK/BATTERY OUT OF DATE		11/5/87
EBC 102A	OK/BATTERY EXPIRES NOVEMBER 87		11/5/87
SHARC-7	OK	5697	I1/8/87
NARCO-ELT-10	G-SWITCH INOP/BATTERY OUT OF DATE	53554	11/10/37
SHARC-7	BATTERY OUT OF DATE/WHITE POWDER&PC BOARD GREEN	161166	11/10/87
SHARC-7	G-SWITCH INT	127109	11/12/87
NARCO-ELT-10	NO TAB ON EXT ANT COAX	72584	11/12/87
NARCO-ELT-10	BATTERY OUT OF DATE/NO TOP ON COAX	20468	11/12/87
NARCO-ELT-10	OFF FREQUENCY 6-7 MHZ	C12028	11/12/8/
POINTER 3000	BATTERY VOLTAGE 7.8/DROPS TO 3-5V DC/LOW POWER	325209	11/18/37
D/M ELT U	MOD 2002	48904	11/18/37
D/M ELT 1-3	75mw/PWR LOW/THIS UNIT USES FLASHLIGHT BATTERIES		, 20, 0,
	NO DATE	1120	11/18/37
E3C 102A	BATTERY OUT OF DATE/XMITTER OFF LOKC/REPL. BATT		
	NOTIFIED CUSTOMER	51851	11/21/87
E3C 102A	BATTERY OUT OF DATE/REPLACED BATTERY		11/27/87
LARGO 1005	INOP/CHECKED/BATTERY DEAD/REPLACED BATTERY	862	11/27/87
NARCO-ELT-10	BATTERY CONNECTION INT	21447	12/1/87
NARCO-ELT-10	MOD 1507	10351	12/1/87
NARCO-ELT-10	INOP/BATTERY DEAD/21 MONTHS OUT OF DATE/REPL./OK		12/7/87
POINTER 3000	INOP/BATTERY DEAD/REPLACED/BATT DATE WAS STILL OK	319391	12/8/87
SHARC-7	GOES OF INT/SOMEONE INSTALLED & POINTER G-SWITCH		
	GLUE BROKE LOOSE/THROW OUT	19242	12/11/37
SHARC-7	INOP/1975 BATTERY/REPLACED BATTERY	7733	12/28/87

Natoria Aeronaulics and State: Administration	Report Documentation	Page
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TSO-C91a ELTs	Tar improvementes serrising	6. Performing Organization Code
7. Author(s)		8. Performing Organization Report No.
Bernard J. Trudell and	Ryland R. Dreibelbis	
bernaru 5. fraderi	5 -	
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9. Performing Organization Name and A	Address	
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		1988-1990
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Washington, DC 20546-0	001	EC
15. Supplementary Notes		
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