



Aviation Investigation Preliminary Report

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| Location: | Cahokia, IL | Accident Number: | CEN23LA150 |
| Date & Time: | April 9, 2023, 08:45 Local | Registration: | N372PA |
| Aircraft: | HELICOPTERES GUIMBAL CABRI G2 | Injuries: | 1 Minor, 1 None |
| Flight Conducted Under: | Part 91: General aviation - Instructional | | |

On April 9, 2023, at 0845 central daylight time, a Helicopteres Guimbal Cabri G2, N372PA, was involved in an accident near Cahokia, Illinois. The helicopter sustained substantial damage. The flight instructor received minor injuries and the student pilot was uninjured. The helicopter was operated under Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91 as an instructional flight.

The flight instructor stated that during the approach for landing at the departure airport, his cyclic had “a little bit of play,” and the helicopter was not responding “fully” to his control inputs. He then completely lost cyclic control upon lining up with the taxiway of intended landing. He stated that he still had collective and rudder control. The student pilot’s cyclic controls continued to function, and the flight instructor coached him on cyclic control inputs to maintain control of the helicopter, but the student pilot’s cyclic control then ceased to function. The helicopter impacted the ground during the attempted landing and sustained substantial damage to the main rotor blades.

Postaccident examination of the flight control system revealed a pin used for the removal of the cyclic was not in place.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

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|----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Aircraft Make: | HELICOPTERES GUIMBAL | Registration: | N372PA |
| Model/Series: | CABRI G2 | Aircraft Category: | Helicopter |
| Amateur Built: | | | |
| Operator: | | Operating Certificate(s) Held: | Pilot school (141) |
| Operator Designator Code: | | | |

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

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| Conditions at Accident Site: | VMC | Condition of Light: | Day |
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | CPS,413 ft msl | Observation Time: | 08:45 Local |
| Distance from Accident Site: | 0 Nautical Miles | Temperature/Dew Point: | 11°C /-1°C |
| Lowest Cloud Condition: | | Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction: | 8 knots / , 130° |
| Lowest Ceiling: | None | Visibility: | 10 miles |
| Altimeter Setting: | 30.4 inches Hg | Type of Flight Plan Filed: | None |
| Departure Point: | Cahokia, IL | Destination: | Cahokia, IL |

Wreckage and Impact Information

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|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Crew Injuries: | 1 Minor, 1 None | Aircraft Damage: | Substantial |
| Passenger Injuries: | | Aircraft Fire: | None |
| Ground Injuries: | | Aircraft Explosion: | None |
| Total Injuries: | 1 Minor, 1 None | Latitude, Longitude: | 38.570361,-90.155083 (est) |

Administrative Information

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| Investigator In Charge (IIC): | Gallo, Mitchell |
| Additional Participating Persons: | Robert Prenger; Federal Aviation Administration, St. Louis FSDO; St. Ann, MO |
| Note: | The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident. |