

HH-53C Helicopter Crash Site, Isleta Pueblo, NM

DATE July 27, 1982

AIRCRAFT HH-53 military helicopter, USAF No. 69-5792

GENERAL LOCATION Isleta Pueblo, NM

PEOPLE ABOARD Four USAF crew members

REFERENCES Official USAF mishap report 82-7-27-2

HISTORY

This historical information was extracted and summarized from the reference official USAF mishap report. Refer to that document for more details.

At 2140 hours local time, July 27, 1982, the subject aircraft departed Kirtland AFB, NM, for a routine night training mission. After approximately two hours of flight on the long green air refueling track practicing air refueling, the aircraft departed the formation under VFR. At approximately 2346 hours, local time, the aircraft struck the ground, burned and was destroyed. All four crew members perished.

The crash occurred on the Isleta Indian reservation, so it was necessary to obtain Tribal permission to visit the crash site. After doing that, crash explorers were accompanied by Isleta Pueblo officials and visited the area where they found crash debris. Estimated site locations were provided by the FOA Manager at Kirtland AFB, and another independent crash explorer. There is no reason to suspect that the debris found belonged to any but the subject aircraft.

The crash explorers gratefully acknowledge the Isleta Pueblo officials for their cooperation and assistance in this investigation.



Photo of a similar type HH-53 helicopter