

DATE & PLACE	TYPE ACFT	HIGH INT?	MAJCOM & MISHAP WING	# EARLY REL.	SYNOPSIS/STATUS
30 Mar 02 Site B45, Rio Grande City, TX	Tethered Aerostat Radar System (TARS) Balloon	NO	ACC asset (under Lockheed contract) Narco- terrorism network under Western Air Defense Sector, (WADS), McChord AFB, WA	0	<p>FACTS: TARS balloon experienced a wind shear, causing it to break away from its tethered winch vehicle and float for approximately 300 miles northeast, dragging a 2500 foot cable. In Bexar County, Texas, northwest of San Antonio, the cable broke several power lines before becoming snagged in some trees where it was then shot down by local police authorities. Approximately 1,000 customers were without power for about six hours. Randolph AFB Claims Office is handling all claims arising out of this incident. The owner of the property where the balloon landed submitted a bid to Lockheed to retrieve the balloon and cable and remediate the land. The landowner had the necessary equipment to remove the balloon and was awarded the bid.</p> <p>STATUS: SIB and AIB appointed by COMACC. SIB in progress.</p>