



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

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Office of Aviation Safety
National Transportation Safety Board

Date: 08/15/2016
Person Contacted: Mr. Jim Bennetts (Witness)
NTSB Accident Number: ANC16FA057

Narrative:

The following is a synopsis of the information provided by Mr. Bennetts in a telephone conversation.

Jim was a prospective buyer for the airplane, which was for sale. Jim showed up to the airport around 1315 or so to do a walk around of the airplane. Jim also brought his mechanic friend with him.

Jim and his friend walked around the airplane and noticed nothing wrong with the airframe and engine. The accident pilot reported no mechanical problems with the airframe and engine to Jim. Jim observed that some portions of the fabric on the airplane didn't appear to be "clean." The accident pilot reported to Jim that the airplane had both tanks full of fuel.

The accident pilot asked Jim if he wanted to go for a ride in the airplane and Jim declined. Jim declined because he said he would only go for a ride in the airplane if he made a formal offer for purchasing the airplane. The accident pilot said he was going to go flying after the walk around with Jim.

After Jim and the accident pilot parted ways, the airplane departed from Runway 2R. Jim said he watched the airplane as it departed, and as it neared the departure end of the Runway 2R, it turned steeply to the right (about 90 degrees), and the nose and right wing descended. Jim did not see the terrain impact due to the trees and hangars obscuring his view.