



NTSB RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Investigator name: Shaun Williams
Mode: Air Safety Investigator
Region: Alaska

Date: 1/20/2016
Person Contacted: Eugene Gifford, Passenger
NTSB Accident Number: ANC16LA012

Narrative:

Mr. Gifford was a passenger on N540ME during an airplane accident on 1/2/2016. The flight departed Fairbanks, Alaska bound for Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska when it impacted terrain about 6 miles southwest of Anaktuvuk Pass Airport.

Mr. Gifford only remembered about the last 10 minutes of the flight. One of the other passengers tapped him on the shoulder and asked “where are his windshield wipers.” He stated he was having trouble seeing out of the front of the airplane due to ice on the windshield. He remembered seeing ice on the left wing strut that was not smooth but “sectioned like pieces of ice.”

Just prior to the impact, he heard a series of beeps. He stated that this noise was similar to what he heard on prior flights right before landing. The airplane then banked to the right, followed by a “hard” left bank. He stated that the left wing impacted first and then an object hit him on the back of the head.

END OF INTERVIEW



NTSB RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Investigator name: Shaun Williams
Mode: Air Safety Investigator
Region: Alaska

Date: 1/5/2016
Person Contacted: Doni Newell, Passenger
NTSB Accident Number: ANC16LA012

Narrative:

Mrs. Newell was a passenger on N540ME during an airplane accident on 1/2/2016. The flight departed Fairbanks, Alaska bound for Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska when it impacted terrain about 6 miles southwest of Anaktuvuk Pass Airport.

Mrs. Newell stated that she was seated in the back of the airplane in the last row of seats with her husband for the entire duration of the flight. She noticed the airplane getting close to the mountains and heard a buzzer going off from the cockpit. Also, she stated the front window was covered in ice.

END OF INTERVIEW



NTSB RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Investigator name: Shaun Williams
Mode: Air Safety Investigator
Region: Alaska

Date: 1/05/2016
Person Contacted: Jeffrey Hagen, Passenger
NTSB Accident Number: ANC16LA012

Narrative:

Mr. Hagen was a passenger on N540ME during an airplane accident on 1/2/2016. The flight departed Fairbanks, Alaska bound for Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska when it impacted terrain about 6 miles southwest of Anaktuvuk Pass Airport.

Mr. Hagen was awake for the flight. Before takeoff, the pilot conducted a safety briefing to include the use of seatbelts.

When the airplane began to descend, he noticed the windows and windshield were becoming covered in ice. As they continued to descend, he took out his phone to take pictures from inside the airplane. He then saw red and yellow on the screen in the instrument panel, heard a beeping noise and saw a light flashing on the instrument panel. At that point, the pilot reached up and pressed the button and the beeping stopped. Almost immediately, the airplane started to bank and the nose of the airplane pitched up. He saw the wing then impact the mountain from his side window.

When asked about the beeping and the pilot actions, he stated that he had witnessed pilots press the button to stop the beeping noise on previous flights. He stated that he saw it "many times."

After exiting the airplane he asked the pilot what had happened, to which the response was "I screwed up, so sorry, I screwed up. I zigged when I should have zagged."

END OF INTERVIEW



NTSB RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Investigator name: Shaun Williams
Mode: Air Safety Investigator
Region: Alaska

Date: 1/05/2016
Person Contacted: Krystal Rose, MINOR Passenger
NTSB Accident Number: ANC16LA012

Narrative:

Ms. Rose was a passenger on N540ME during an airplane accident on 1/2/2016. The flight departed Fairbanks, Alaska bound for Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska when it impacted terrain about 6 miles southwest of Anaktuvuk Pass Airport.

Ms. Rose stated that she was only awake about half of the flight. She said as the flight got closer to Anaktuvuk Pass, there was a little turbulence. She did not remember being in the clouds, but did see ice on the windshield and on the wings. Just before impact, she heard a “really loud beeping noise.”

She said the pilot did not say anything before the impact, and gave no warnings to the passengers.

END OF INTERVIEW



NTSB RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Investigator name: Shaun Williams
Mode: Air Safety Investigator
Region: Alaska

Date: 1/20/2016
Person Contacted: Theresa Gifford, Passenger
NTSB Accident Number: ANC16LA012

Narrative:

Mrs. Gifford was a passenger on N540ME during an airplane accident on 1/2/2016. The flight departed Fairbanks, Alaska bound for Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska when it impacted terrain about 6 miles southwest of Anaktuvuk Pass Airport.

Mrs. Gifford stated that she did not remember much from the accident as she was sleeping through most of the flight. At one point she remembered a sound like ice was falling off the airplane, which startled her. She did not remember anything else until after the impact.

END OF INTERVIEW