



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Noreen Price
Aviation Accident Investigator
Alaska Regional Office

Date: June 12 and 20, 2018
Persons Contacted: Randy Smith, Passenger's Friend
NTSB Accident Number: ANC18FA044, N1203A PA-18

Narrative: Mr. Smith was a friend of the passenger, Mr. Ronge. He was interviewed by telephone. This is a summary of his statements.

Mr. Smith was very good friend with Mr. Ronge. He worked with him for 26 years. They both had always wanted to go on a fishing trip in Alaska. It was a "once in a lifetime trip." He and Mr. Ronge arrived at the lodge in Sitka on June 6th and were planning on leaving June 10th. The trip was only for fishing by boat. There were no flights scheduled for them at the lodge.

On the evening of the accident, there was a family with about 8 children at dinner, and they were very noisy and disruptive. Mr. Smith and Ronge felt this was disturbing their vacation. Mr. Ronge was very upset. Mr. Huffman was apologetic and offered to take them on a sightseeing trip to see mountain goats for about 30 to 45 minutes. Mr. Smith declined because it had been a long day and they were up early fishing from 0600 to 1600. Mr. Ronge accepted and was very excited to go. The weather was clear.

Mr. Ronge had only 1 glass of wine with dinner.

Mr. Ronge did not have a cell phone and he left his camera at the lodge before the flight.

When asked if Mr. Huffman asked for money, Mr. Smith said "no; it was a courtesy flight."