



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Noreen Price
Aviation Accident Investigator
Alaska Regional Office

Date: February 1, 2018
Persons Contacted: Glenn Wegman, witness
NTSB Accident Number: ANC18LA021, N412MF

Narrative:

Mr. Wegman owns and works at a hangar at Indiantown Airport and he witnessed the gyroplane accident that occurred on January 25, 2018. The interview was conducted by telephone. This is a summary of his statements.

MR. Wegman's hangar is the nearest one to the runway. On the day of the accident, there was a very strong crosswind at the airport. The windsock was standing straight out, and the wind was gusting as well. He estimated the wind to be between 20-30 kts and gusting from the northeast at the time of the accident. Just before the accident, he was working in the closed hangar, and he heard an engine outside and was curious as to who was flying in those wind conditions. He went outside and observed N412MF taxiing out to runway 13 for takeoff. The engine sounded normal.

The gyroplane lined up against the right side of runway 13 at about the 5700-foot mark and commenced a takeoff roll diagonally toward the left side (heading 110 degrees.) It then rolled past the north side runway markers and turned right to parallel runway 13 and continued the takeoff roll. The gyroplane eventually ran out of runway and into a shallow depression and the elevated road. It then flipped over at least two times while crossing the road and descended the embankment toward the canal. The gyroplane never left the ground.

Mr. Wegman could not see the gyroplane after it went down the embankment. He called 911. The fire department and sheriff responded within minutes. The mechanic who worked on the gyrocopter is a reputable mechanic in the area, although Mr. Wegman had no firsthand experience with his work.