

Statement of Witness

Phone number: [REDACTED]

1. What is your name? Jason Schultze Age 47
2. Address [REDACTED] Greenwood, WI 54437
3. Place of Incident Chetek, WI Date 5-24-2017 Hour 6:34 PM
4. Aircraft _____ Registration Number _____
5. Occupation Equipment operator Employer American Asphalt
6. Tell in your own words what you saw or heard before and at the time the incident occurred.

a yellow Plane was heading north following the river about 60-80' above Tree Tops. When he passed me he Banked to the west over the river and over a pond where some kids were Boating. He then started to climb to the East and then the plane went straight down and just Above Tree Tops you can see the plane try to pull up but then went under Tree tops and about 5 sec later we heard impact.

[REDACTED]
Signature

(Use reverse side, if necessary)

Statement of Witness

1. What is your name? Ron Whalen Age 60
2. Address [REDACTED] Delaven WI 53115
3. Place of Incident Chetek Date 5-24-17 Hour 6:30
4. Aircraft _____ Registration Number _____
5. Occupation Asphalt Plant operator Employer American Asphalt of Wisconsin

6. Tell in your own words what you saw or heard before and at the time the incident occurred.

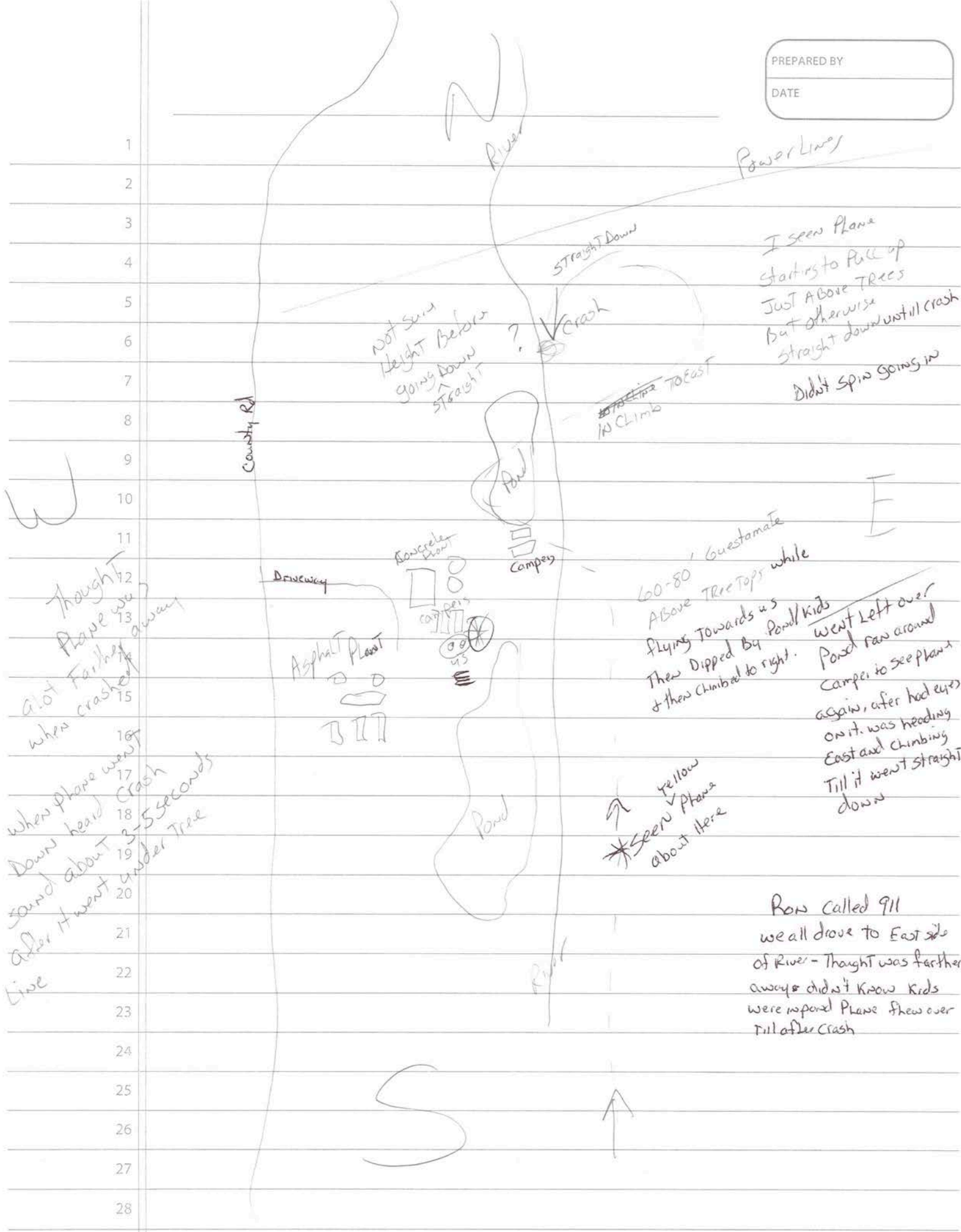
about 60 to 80' ^W Was by campers saw plane ~~coming~~ flying north over river
it it went ~~east~~ west behind concrete plant by pond north of
concrete plant then it turned east started to climb and all of sudden
went in a straight 90° towards ground and seemed like it might have
tried to pull up and lost sight and heard and explosion sound.
Sounded like engine was running the whole time.

[REDACTED]
Signature

(Use reverse side, if necessary)

PREPARED BY

DATE



Thought Plane was
A lot farther away
when crashed

when plane went
down heard crash
sound about 3-5 seconds
after it went under tree
line

Not sure
Height Before
going down
straight

Straight Down

Crash

I seen Plane
starting to Pull up
Just Above Trees
But otherwise
straight down until crash
Didn't spin going in

~~to the line~~ to East
in Climb

Driveway

Asphalt Plant

Baseball
Court

Campers

Campsite

60-80' Guestimate
Above Tree Tops while
Flying Towards us
Then Dipped By Pond Kids
& then climbed to right.

went Left over
Pond ran around
Campsite to see plant
again, after had eyes
on it. was heading
East and climbing
Till it went straight
down

Yellow
*seen Plane
about here

Ron called 911
we all drove to East side
of River - Thought was farther
away & didn't know kids
were in pond Plane flew over
till after crash

FAA Inspector Meeting Statement

From: Inspector Raymond Peterson, ASI

Minneapolis Flight Standards District Office

Re: Details regarding the acquiring of Witness Statements who saw accident of N35132.

Date: June 2, 2017

Location: Gilman, WI

At 10:00 I arrived at a construction site in Gilman, Wisconsin to interview two witnesses that were watching the aircraft and saw the crash of N35132. Mr. Jason Schultze had created a map prior to my arriving that described their vantage points. He also told me then that before the accident, he saw the aircraft flying up the river. He said that it was above the trees. I then asked him how high above the trees would he estimate. Mr. Schultze then commented how he used the silo height on his construction equipment, which was 60' and that is why he said that he estimated the aircraft to have been 60 - 80' above the trees. He described that the aircraft then made a left descending turn to the left (West) for a little bit and then made a turn back to the east. He added that when the airplane went back towards the river, it made a steep climb. He said that he recalled the aircraft then going vertically straight down. He believed that he felt that the pilot was going to "Pull out of it", but that he was too low. He feared that he was not going to be able to pull out. He stated that the aircraft did not spin.

They then completed their Witness statements that I handed them.

When later specifically asked if they heard engine sounds. They both responded that they recalled hearing nothing abnormal. I inquired if the next sound they heard was the crash - and they both agreed. I passively inquired a bit more if any unusual sounds were heard prior. They both said "no" - and then Mr. Schultze added that he heard the engine running right to impact. Mr. Whelen agreed that he also heard the engine running right up to the end. I specifically inquired again as if there were any other unusual sound that they may recall prior to the impact. They seriously pondered in their minds - and replied, "No".

Both of these men then stated that after they made the 911 Emergency call, they proceeded to the other side of the river.



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Jennifer Rodi
Air Safety Investigator
Central Region

Person Contacted: Robert Dodge
NTSB Accident Number: CEN17FA196

Narrative:

During the conversation, Mr. Dodge stated the following:

Mr. Dodge is the land owner with the lake that the accident airplane overflow. He was on the north end of the lake at the time of the accident. The airplane flew from the south to the north and was “not really high” over the tops of the trees. He could see that the door of the airplane was open and the two occupants were waving at Mr. Dodge and the other boys on the ground. The airplane started a slow, shallow bank towards the east.

Mr. Dodge commented that as the airplane flew over them the engine rpms sounded low but smooth. Just prior to the accident the airplane was no longer in view – he heard what he characterized as a “backfire” from the engine – a loud pop and then the sound of the crash.



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Jennifer Rodi
Air Safety Investigator
Central Region

Person Contacted: Alex Timm - Witness
NTSB Accident Number: CEN17FA196

Narrative:

During the conversation, Mr. Timm stated the following:

Mr. Timm was fishing on a pond or lake with three other friends, just to the west of where the airplane crashed. Prior to the accident they saw the airplane fly over from south to north. The airplane started a turn to the right or towards the east. He heard a pop or backfire and then observed the wings of the airplane level and it descended behind the trees. He stated that aside from the pop or backfire the engine sounded normal.