



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Jim Silliman
Air Safety Investigator
Central Region

Date: August 7, 2017
Person Contacted: Mr. David Lubke
NTSB Accident Number: CEN17LA292

Narrative:

Mr. Lubke stated that he was watching the crop duster while sitting on his ATV “gator” while listening to the radio. He saw the airplane do a fly-by to check out the field. It then started spraying along the east side of the cornfield. The airplane was on its second pass at the north end and then started its pass going to the south. About mid-way down the field adjacent to the irrigation pivot point, he observed blue smoke coming from the airplane for about 150 to 200 ft. He estimated that the airplane was going about 100 mph.

He said that the airplane clipped a tree at the south end of the field and it rolled completely over and crashed into a field. The airplane’s nose hit first and then it flipped back upright. He said he was shocked when it hit the tree, but he added that crop dusters “cut it close.”

He arrived at the accident site and assisted the pilot. Two neighbors arrived at the site and stated that they had heard the engine making “popping” sounds.