



RECORD OF CORRESPONDENCE

Michael J. Folkerts
Aviation Accident Investigator
Central Region

NTSB Accident Number: CEN20LA270

Due to his serious injuries, the accident pilot (Matthias Plett) did not recall any information that involved the accident sequence. The last correspondence with Mr. Plett concerning his memory loss occurred on December 7, 2021.

Another pilot in the spray operation (Rudy Gerzer) provided the following information:

- Mr. Gerzer was a close friend of the accident pilot since they were 6 years old and stayed in regular contact with the pilot as a friend and co-worker.
- During the evening prior to the accident, spray operations occurred until sunset.
- Mr. Gerzer and Plett left to return to their respective homes about 2200 and returned to work about 0600 on the day of the accident.
- The accident flight occurred during the end of a “big push” to complete the spraying of fields.
- He noticed the winds increasing quickly on the morning of the accident after about 0800.
- He was not aware of any distractions or significant stresses in Mr. Plett’s life that might have been a factor in the accident.
- He viewed the President of Southeast Air Service (Mr. Steve Kiansky) as a conscientious leader who stressed safety during spray operations and had no issues with shutting down operations due to hazards.