

STATEMENT

ON SATURDAY 7 NOV 20, WHILE GIVING A RIDE TO MY GIRLFRIEND'S GRANDDAUGHTER TO TAKE PICTURES OF HER COUSIN'S HOUSE, JUST EAST OF IFO, WE CRASHED.

I MADE TWO PASSES FROM WEST TO EAST ON NORTH SIDE OF A ROAD AND A ROW OF HOUSES WHILE SHE TOOK PICTURES.

AFTER THE SECOND PASS I HEADED BACK TO THE WEST TILL I CLEARED THE HOUSES THEN STARTED TO TURN SOUTHWEST TO LEAVE THE AREA, I LEVED OUT HEADED TOWARDS LAKE MURRAY WHEN THE AIRCRAFT PICKED UP A MILD VIBRATION MUCH LIKE FLYING THRU YOUR OWN PROP WASH. IN FACT I SAID THAT TO MY PASSENGER.

NO SOONER HAD I SAID THAT ~~THEN~~ THE VIBRATION BECAME EXTREME. I REDUCED POWER TO SEE IF IT WOULD HELP. IT DIDN'T. I THEN ADDED FULL POWER WITH NO HELP. STARTED LOOSING POWER SO I SET UP A GLIDE. ABOUT THE TIME I GOT A GLIDE STARTED, THE AIRCRAFT OF ITS OWN ACCORD STARTED A APPROX 15% TURN TO THE LEFT. I APPLIED FULL RIGHT ALERON WITH NO EFFECT. HELD STEERING WHEEL FULL RIGHT TO HITTING TREE AND GROUND. IT WAS AS IF I HAD NO CONTROL AT ALL

16 NOV. 2020.

[REDACTED]

We took off from the airport and began traveling east to my cousin Hailey's house. We had planned before that we would go by and wave at them, so they were waiting outside for us. We got to their house and flew over. We made a circle to turn around and wave again. We were circling when I noticed Thomas was struggling to get the steering wheel (stick? Not sure what to call it) to turn to straighten the plane out. He was pulling so hard to get it to straighten out. After about 6-7 seconds of trying, he said, "Taylor, this is bad. This is bad." Within seconds of him saying that we crashed into the tree.

Taylor Owen



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Michael J. Hodges
Air Safety Investigator
Central Regional Office
Office of Aviation Safety
National Transportation Safety Board

Date: 11/21/2021
Person Contacted: Thomas Berryhill (Pilot – N331BW)
NTSB Case Number: CEN21LA047

Narrative:

The following is a synopsis of the information provided by Thomas Berryhill to the NTSB investigator-in-charge, via a telephone conversation.

- The estimated weight of Thomas was 200 pounds at the time of the accident
 - The estimated weight of his girlfriend was 150 pounds at the time of the accident.
 - The estimated weight of his girlfriend's granddaughter was 40 pounds at the time of the accident
 - When Thomas departed for the flight on the day of the accident, the airplane was full of fuel. All tanks (the main/nose, the left wing, and the right wing) were full of 100 low lead fuel.
 - Thomas did not apply carburetor heat when the engine started to have issues in flight.
 - Thomas thought that perhaps the cause of the accident was that an engine mount failed in flight.
- *** Nothing Follows ***



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Oklahoma Highway Patrol



REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT OR VIOLATION

Accident ☒

Violation ☐

Location [REDACTED]

Date of accident or violation 11/07, 2020

Time 8:06 a.m. ☒ p.m. ☐

Aircraft "N" No. N331BW Make ERCOUE Model 1946

Pilot THOMAS J BERRYHILL
Name
[REDACTED] ARDMORE OK, 73401
Address

Certificate: ☐ Student ☐ Private ☒ Commercial ☐ ATP
Medical Certificate: ☐ Current ☐ Expired
Date Issued: 11/04/2014
Cert. No. [REDACTED]

Age 78 Male ☒ Female ☐ Date of Birth [REDACTED]

Passengers in Aircraft - (Names and Addresses) PASSENGER #1 TAYLOR S. OWEN [REDACTED] ARDMORE OK, 73401.
PASSENGER #2 LANI M. OWEN SAME ADDRESS AS PASSENGER #1.

Owner of Aircraft - (Name and Address) THOMAS J BERRYHILL SAME AS ABOVE ADDRESS.

Local Flight ☒ Cross-Country Flight ☐ Flight Plan Filed: Yes ☐ No ☐
Filed With What Service? [REDACTED]

SECURITY

Security of Site: Date [REDACTED] Time [REDACTED] Officer's Name and Department [REDACTED]

Security of Personal Effects and Location [REDACTED]
Officer's Name and Department [REDACTED]

Security of Aircraft Papers: ☐ Registration ☐ Airworthiness ☐ Aircraft Log Books
☒ Pilot Cert. ☐ Medical Cert. ☐ Weight and Balance

NOTIFICATION

FAA Oklahoma City FSDO [REDACTED] Date 11/07/2020 Time 8:30 By KARI MANKEY OHP DISPATCH.
(If no answer, call [REDACTED])

Medical Examiner (Fatalities ONLY) Date [REDACTED] Time [REDACTED] By [REDACTED]

Funeral Home (Do not allow bodies to be embalmed until samples have been taken.) [REDACTED]

Name, Address, and Phone No.: [REDACTED]

Notification of Next of Kin: Date 11/07/2020 Time [REDACTED] Person Notified HELEN MCREYNOLDS (GIRL FRIEND OF PILOT)

By TAYLOR S OWEN

AC-100
DPS 2170
0296 08/2020

IF ACCIDENT:

Description of accident (include what pilot or passenger told you) On Saturday 11/07/2020 at approximately 8:06 am. I Trooper JODY CORNELISON [REDACTED] of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol was dispatched to [REDACTED] in reference to a aircraft crash. Upon arrival I observed an aircraft that collided into a tree. All the passengers were removed from the wreckage prior to my arrival. CORNELISON made contact with the pilot in the back of an ambulance. Medics were rendering aid to the pilot. The pilot was flown by helicopter to Plano Regional hospital and listed in critical condition. Both passengers were taken by POV to Mercy Memorial Hospital in Ardmore. Both passengers were treated and released with minor injuries. One of the passengers stated that the pilot stated "We are in trouble" and noticed that the Yoke in the left position. She stated that the pilot was jerking on the Yoke to the right and it was stuck.

Injured (Names and Addresses) Thomas J Berryhill

[REDACTED] Ardmore Ok, 73401

Taylor S Owen [REDACTED] Ardmore Ok 73401 [REDACTED] Daughter Lani Owen.

Fatalities (Names and Addresses) _____

Witnesses to violation or accident (Names and Addresses) _____

Property damage Property Owner: James and Sherri Elmore [REDACTED] Ardmore Ok, 73401 [REDACTED]

IF VIOLATION:

Complaint (Name and Address) _____

Nature of Violation _____

Enforcement Action Taken _____

Copies to go to the following:

1 copy to remain at Troop Headquarters

1 copy to be forwarded to Troop O ([REDACTED] Norman, OK 73069)

1 copy to be forwarded to DPS Records Management

1 copy to be forwarded to FAA Oklahoma City FSDO-67

([REDACTED] Oklahoma City, OK 73108)

Investigator _____

Date of Investigation _____