



SAN MIGUEL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Deputy Report for Incident S20-1551

Nature: AIRCRAFT CRASH
Location: ECO

Address: Last Dollar Subdivision

Offense Codes: AIRP, SAR

Received By: C WILKERSON

How Received: T

Agency: SMSO

Responding Officers: KIP ALBANESE, M DONNELLON, C WHITE, C FUNKE

Responsible Officer: C WHITE

Disposition: TRA 11/27/20

When Reported: 13:34:51 11/26/20

Occurred Between: 12:59:00 11/26/20 and 12:59:04 11/26/20

Assigned To:

Detail:

Date Assigned: **/**/**

Status:

Status Date: **/**/**

Due Date: **/**/**

Complainant: [REDACTED]

Last: UNITED
STATES AIR
FORCE

First:

Mid:

DOB: **/**/**

Dr Lic:

Address:

Race: **Sex:**

Phone: () -

City: , FL

Offense Codes

Reported: AIRP Aircraft Problem

Observed: AIRP Aircraft Problem

Additional Offense: AIRP Aircraft Problem

Additional Offense: SAR SEARCH AND RESCUE

Circumstances

LT10 Field/Woods

Responding Officers:

KIP ALBANESE
M DONNELLON
C WHITE
C FUNKE

Unit :

[REDACTED]

Responsible Officer: C WHITE

Received By: C WILKERSON

How Received: T TELEPHONE

When Reported: 13:34:51 11/26/20

Agency: SMSO

Last Radio Log: **:*.**:** **/**/**

Clearance: OCL cleared by other agency

Disposition: TRA **Date:** 11/27/20

Supplement

S20-1551 Initial Report: Aircraft Crash
Deputy Chris White
26 November 2020

On 26 November 2020 I was on Patrol near Norwood when SMSO Dispatch advised me they were receiving multiple reports of a plane crashing near the Telluride Airport. Dispatch advised me they were contacted by the USAF and given a GPS point of 37.95187 degrees North by -107.88145 degrees West.

Shortly after I was given these coordinates I was advised by Emil Sante that the crash was witnessed by Denise Mongan who lives at [REDACTED] Nimbus Drive. Deputy Kip Albanese was closest and went to interview her. See his report for more information. I drove to the airport to interview airport staff.

When I arrived at the airport I was advised over the radio that a person walking the trail near the end of Nimbus Trail found the wreckage. The RP was stating 2 occupants, both were deceased. I left the airport and drove to that location.

I arrived on scene at [REDACTED] Nimbus Trail, the Jeff Campbell residence, I observed several neighborhood residents who appeared shaken and upset. I asked Deputies Kip Albanese and Mike Donnellon to go check the crash site and get scene photos. I gave out witness forms to the four people in the driveway of the Jeff Campbell residence at [REDACTED] Nimbus Dr. I collected statements from Denise Mongan, Ross Perrot, Margaret "Maggie" Lynn Martin and Trevor Jones. See their statements scanned into this case file.

I walked up to the crash sight. I observed a small single engine plane, I was advised later it was a VAND RV4, painted silver with military style insignia. I could smell a strong odor of hydraulic fluid and engine oil, but only a faint odor of aviation fuel. I could see two people in the aircraft, both appeared, from about 50-75 feet, to be dead. I could see one arm each, upper torso, shoulders and head. Both appeared to have severe head injuries. The aircraft was mostly intact. The front of the plane was bent up at close to a 90 degree angle from the fuselage, the bend being approximately at the front of the cockpit. The aircraft was resting on the belly of the fuselage on an old road oriented towards the Telluride airport north west of it's location. The wings were still attached with the leading edges very damaged. The cockpit was very damaged and the tail section was intact with much less damage. The Emergency Locator Beacon (ELB) was sounding an audible alarm. Approximately 6-10 feet in front of the plane I observed a fairly obvious impact mark with debris from the canopy, propeller and engine compartment.

I requested Dep. Donnellon take detailed photos of the cockpit, controls and any gauges visible prior to moving anything or the two occupants. I photographed the general scene and took note of the control surfaces of the aircraft. The right and left ailerons were up, the elevator was up with the trim piece on the left side down, the rudder was to the right and it appeared the flaps were missing. (Per the request of Todd Fox (NTSB) I returned to the crash on 27 November 2020 and found the flaps were folded completely under the wings. Both flaps were in this position.)

Upon closer inspection of the occupants I observed severe trauma to limbs, torso and head of both parties. The deputies on scene and I agreed we would not move anything until the Coroner arrived.

We continued to document the scene. We started putting up a perimeter of crime scene tape to keep people out. At approximately 1453 hours I turned off the ELB at the request of the USAF. At approximately 1523 I accidentally turned it on again while we were removing the bodies with the coroner.

San Miguel County Coroner Emil Sante arrived at approximately 1456 hours. We turned the scene over to him for investigation. We stayed on scene to assist with security and recovery of the occupants.

While we were extricating the occupants I received a call from Mark O'Connell with the FAA. He opened a conference call with Matt Green SLC FAA, Todd Fox NTSB and me. I advised them we did not have identities confirmed for the occupants yet. I was able to confirm the pilot during the conversation however. I described the scene to the call participants and took down a list of tasks to be followed up on. This list included identifying the female, finding log books and or any other flight documents as well as sending photos of the crash site and witness statements. Per the request of Mr. Fox I kept him updated on progress and new information as it was found.

An ID was found for the Male pilot, he was identified as Bryan Lee Kill. Eventually the female passenger was identified as Mana Mohtasham.

After the occupants were removed from the scene I cleared and went to the airport to interview staff and witnesses there.

At the Telluride Airport I spoke to Meredith Fox and Greg Babush. Ms. Fox is an employee at the airport and was on the radio with Mr. Kill during his approach to the airport. She said he was at the Telluride airport earlier that morning. That he left in his plane at approximately 9 AM to fly to Durango to pick up a female friend and bring her back to Telluride. Ms. Fox told me she was in radio contact with Mr. Kill some time between 1:15 and 1:30 advising him he was clear to land and could go to his hanger. A few moments later she heard him say "Oh ~~Shit~~" over the radio. She said she lost him on her flight tracker, then the USAF called to report a signal from an "ELT" (Emergency Location Transmitter) attached to 87LW, the tail number for Mr. Kill's aircraft. She confirmed he had not landed at the Telluride Airport.

Next I spoke to Mr. Babush. He confirmed he saw 87LW fly past the airport just prior to the crash. He said he knew Mr. Kill and was familiar with the plane.

Ms. Fox took me out to the hanger to look for the log books. Mr. Kill had a small pile of tools and things associated with the plane near the north wall of hanger S1. I looked through these things and did not find any flight or maintenance logs.

Per the request of Federal investigators who were not able to respond due to COVID travel restrictions I requested deputies on scene hang Sheriff's tape around the entire crash. This was to create a visual barrier for the public. Neighbors in the area agreed to call 911 if anyone was seen inside the barrier.

On 27 November 2020 I returned to the crash site to continue looking for any Log Books. I found a note pad and held it for the person who was coming from Beegles Recovery.

On 28 November 2020 I met Curtis XXXX from Beegles Recovery at approximately 1330 hours and took him to the crash site. I gave him all phones iPads and the note pads recovered from the plane.

On 29 November 2020 I received an email from Jason Currie, a manager at the Telluride Airport. He sent me a link to a security camera video from a camera facing east. I captured the plane on final approach and as it dove toward the ground. I sent the link to Federal Investigators.

End report.

/S/ Deputy Chris White

Supplement

Aircraft Crash

Case Number: S20-1551

Report#: 4

Officer: Kip Albanese

Date: 11/27/2020

Additional People: N/A

Additional Documents/Media: BWC (2)

On 11/26/2020, at approximately 1334 hours, I, Deputy Kip Albanese of the San Miguel County Sheriffs' Office responded to a possible aircraft crash near the Telluride Airport, in the County of San Miguel, State of Colorado.

I spoke to a witness, Denise Morgan, who stated that at approximately 1305 hours, she had seen a small, dark colored plane just south of the airport that was in a nose dive towards the ground. Denise stated that the plane was spinning around and around as it was heading towards the ground, still conducting a nose dive. Denise said that she heard the plane impact the ground but could not see the crash site and did not know how far the plane was from her when she last saw it.

I received a phone call from Denise approximately 10 minutes after speaking to her in person near Nimbus Drive. Denise stated that she had found the plane crash. Deputy White, Deputy Donnellon and I responded to the area of [REDACTED] Nimbus Drive. On scene Deputy Donnellon and I walked towards the area of the crash site that was pointed out from an eye witness.

At the crash site there was a male pilot and a female passenger, both deceased. The single engine aircraft was heavily damaged. It appeared as if the aircraft had nose-dived into the earth as described by Denise.

I helped the coroner extract the two deceased persons involved with Deputy White and Deputy Donnellon. After placing the involved persons into body bags we carried them to the coroner's vehicle.

I taped off the scene with crime scene tape and returned to the crash site with Deputy Donnellon to attempt to find identification for the female victim. Located in front of the pilot's seat was a small black bag that contained the female's wallet and her driver's license. Deputy Donnellon relayed the female victim's identity documents to Deputy White. Nothing Follows.

/s/ K. Albanese, [REDACTED]