



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
Central Region

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: CEN21LA363 Accident Details

On August 7, 2021, about 1115 central daylight time, an unregistered Rotary Air Force RAF-2000 gyroplane was substantially damaged when it was involved in an accident at Chambers County Airport (T00), Anahuac, Texas. The pilot and passenger sustained minor injuries. The gyrocopter was operated as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 test flight.

Pilot/Owner: Danny Whitten

FAA Houston FSDO Inspector: Thomas Fowles

Inspector Fowls communicated with the pilot and stated the following to the NTSB:

The aircraft was a Rotary Air Force (RAF) 2000. The registration was expired but previously registered as N9012R. The pilot intended to complete a test flight after the new trim system was installed. The gyroplane had just departed from Chambers County Airport in Anahuac, Texas. The pilot tried to adjust the trim, and nothing happened. He actuated the switch again and it went further than he was expecting which made the aircraft pitch up violently. He said there was no trim limit switch installed. He stated that the trim install was probably not done right and that's what caused the malfunction during flight. He attempted to override it but was unable and the airplane rapidly descended from 50 ft agl to the impact point.

The maintenance logbooks were not made available to the FAA or NTSB during the course of the investigation.

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Joshua Lindberg, IIC
NTSB - CEN