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Date: July 8, 2025

Subject: Memorandum for Record, Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast (ADS-B) Study, N881KE Flights

All times are central daylight time.

A review of ADS-B data, provided by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), revealed the following:

Prior to October 11, 2024, there were no recorded flights of N881KE to or from Ellington Airport (EFD) Houston, Texas.

October 11, 2024. N881KE was flown from David Wayne Hooks Memorial Airport (DWH) Houston, Texas to William P. Hobby Airport (HOU) Houston, Texas. 20:39 to 21:01

October 12, 2024.

1. HOU to EFD. 11:16 to 11:21
2. EFD to Kemah Boardwalk to EFD 15:22 to 15:39
3. EFD to Memorial City to EFD. 18:50 to 19:28
4. EFD to HOU. 19:41 to 19:47

October 13, 2024.

1. HOU to EFD. 14:21 to 14:26
2. EFD to Kemah boardwalk to EFD. 15:06 to 15:20

3. EFD to Memorial City to EFD. 18:48 to 19:24
4. EFD to Kemah boardwalk to EFD. 19:50 to 20:04
5. EFD to HOU. 20:18 to 20:27

October 14, 2024.

1. HOU to EFD. 10:50 to 11:01
2. EFD to Kemah boardwalk to EFD to San Leon to EFD. 12:03 To 13:12
3. EFD to Kemah boardwalk to EFD. 19:28 to 19:57
4. EFD to HOU. 19:57 to 20:04

October 15, 2024, through October 16, 2024. No flights recorded

October 17, 2024. Sunset: 18:48

1. HOU to EFD. 11:08 to 11:15
2. EFD to Houston to EFD. 12:11 to 12:37 (day conditions). ADS-B data showed the helicopter passed about 2,000 ft south of the I-610 bridge, then passed about 1,900 ft south of the antenna and about 850 mean sea level (msl) and flew along the Houston skyline while about 600 to 775 ft.
3. EFD to Houston to EFD. 18:38 to 19:05 (night conditions). The helicopter passed over the I-610 bridge then passed about 1,900 ft south of the antenna and about 725 ft. The helicopter then flew along the Houston skyline while about 550 to 625 ft.
4. EFD to HOU. 19:18 to 19:26

October 18, 2024.

1. HOU to EFD. 10:53 to 11:00
2. EFD to Kemah boardwalk to EFD. 11:49 to 12:20
3. EFD to Kemah boardwalk to EFD. 17:37 to 17:51
4. EFD to HOU. 19:49 to 19:56

October 19, 2024. Sunset: 18:45

1. HOU to EFD. 10:52 to 10:58
2. EFD to EFD (1 traffic pattern) 12:00 to 12:05
3. EFD to EFD (1 traffic pattern) 12:42 to 12:47
4. EFD to Kemah boardwalk to EFD. 15:37 to 15:53
5. EFD to Kemah boardwalk to EFD. 16:31 to 16:44
6. EFD to Kemah boardwalk to EFD. 17:14 to 17:27
7. EFD to Houston to EFD. 18:44 to 19:08 (night conditions). The helicopter flew over the I-610 bridge then passed about 1,900 ft north of the antenna and about 625 ft. The helicopter then flew along the Houston skyline while about 500 ft to 575 ft.
8. EFD to Kemah boardwalk to EFD. 19:19 to 19:34
9. EFD to Houston to EFD. 20:15 to 20:40 (night conditions). The helicopter flew over the I-610 bridge and then passed about 1,900 ft north of the antenna and about 825 ft. The helicopter then flew along the Houston skyline while about 625 ft to 725 ft.
10. EFD to HOU. 20:53 to 20:59

October 20, 2024. Sunset: 18:44

1. HOU to EFD. 11:08 to 11:16
2. EFD to EFD (1 traffic pattern) 12:14 to 12:20
3. EFD to Kemah boardwalk to EFD. 12:32 to 12:47
4. EFD to Houston to EFD. 17:14 to 17:40 (day conditions). The helicopter flew over the I-610 bridge then passed about 1,000 ft south of the antenna and about 775 ft. The helicopter then flew along the Houston skyline while about 550 ft to 750 ft.
5. EFD to Kemah Boardwalk to EFD. 17:48 to 18:03

6. EFD to Houston to EFD. 18:47 to 19:13 (night conditions). The helicopter flew over the south edge of the I-610 bridge then passed about 580 ft south of the antenna and about 775 ft. The helicopter then flew along the Houston skyline while about 650 to 775 ft.
7. EFD to Houston to Accident. 19:42 to 19:51 (night conditions). After departing EFD the helicopter flew a path that was as far as one mile east of the previous six flights to the Houston skyline. The helicopter passed east of the Sidney Sherman bridge then turned to the east side of the Houston skyline. The helicopter was about 825 ft when it struck the antenna.

Figure one is a Google Earth illustration that shows the seven flights N881KE made from EFD to the Houston skyline and back to EFD.

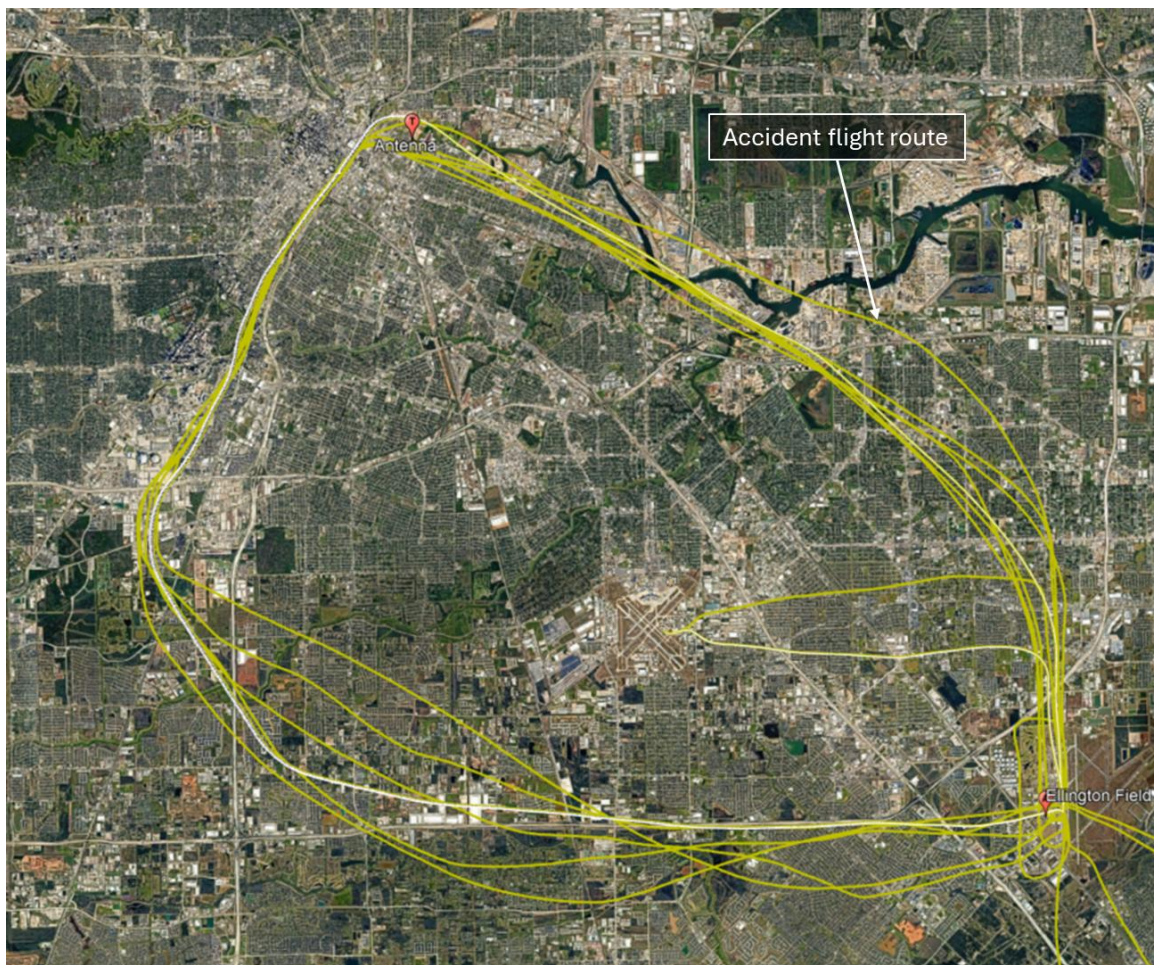


Figure 1. Goggle Earth illustration showing the seven flights N881KE made from EFD to Houston and return to EFD. The accident flight route is identified.