



MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

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Eastern Region Aviation

Date: September 22, 2016

Person Contacted: Steven O'Rourke; FAA Inspector Baltimore FSDO

NTSB Accident Number: ERA16LA319

Narrative:

Telecon with FAA Inspector Steven O'Rourke. There was some initial confusion as to the type of accident this was. Originally it was assigned as a GAA case because all that was known was that the airplane had hit "lawn" equipment, but when it was clear that there was an engine issue, and the airplane was taking off at the time, it changed the scope.

The FAA has photographs, the maintenance records and Maryland State Police Statements. Has not spoken with the pilot yet. He also has the SPAS and airplane specific information that he will send.

It appears that a cylinder failed. It could be the number 4 or 7 depending on the correct counting sequence on this radial engine, a Pratt & Whitney, 1340 Wasp engine. Will confirm. The airplane was canted to the right where it rested.

The airplane is damaged by fire. The fire consumed the entire fuselage back to the tail. The cockpit forward is destroyed by fire. The wings showed signs of impact. It appears that he struck a trailer and a plow of some kind before skidding to a stop in front of a building. The pilot evacuated before it caught fire.

This was an aerial application flight, a "crop duster." The airplane had an engine issue that was corrected the day before and it was fixed and returned to service. It took off from the field east of the silos going west. Unsure how long the "runway" was, but there is a photograph and it can be measured.

The cylinder appears to have blown apart from the top. There is a current AD on this engine regarding the cylinders and inspection criteria.

The airplane was taken away by Anglin (Aircraft & Recovery) Will follow up later.

[END]