

New Jersey State Police
Tuckerton Barracks - C120-

I KENNETH R. MESS make the following statement freely and voluntarily, without force or fear, promise or threat.

Date: 5/16/17

Time: 22:15

In my own words, I will write what happened:

I DEPARTED FREDRICK MD A LITTLE AFTER 7AM
THIS MORNING WITH TH GOAL OF REACHING SANFORD
MAIN AND RETURNING DOWN THE COAST AND THEN
WEST TO FREDERICK. I ANTICIPATED 10 HOURS
PLUS TIME FOR REFUELING STOPS. MY FLIGHTS
FOR TH DAY CONSISTED OF KFDK - KMPO - KAGW -
KSFM - Ø8R - KMJX - 3IE,
AKPVM

EVERY THING WENT AS ANTICIPATED THROUGH OUT THE
DAY. I LANDED AT OCEAN CO. TO REFUEL BUT COULD
NOT FIND ANYONE SO I PROCEEDED TO 3IE AND
REFUELED THERE. I TOPPED OFF WITH 26 GALLONS
AND DEPARTED FULLY FUELED. I TURNED SOUTH
AND INTENDED TO PICKUP THE COAST. CLOSE TO
THE COAST, OVER THE SWAMPY ARED THE ENGINE
SUDDENLY BEGAN SHAKING. I IMMEDIATELY BEGAN
A TURN BACK TOWARDS THE AIRPORT IN QUICK
SUCCESION THE ENGINE QUIT, SMOKE FILLED THE COCKPIT,
I ELBOWED THE DOOR OPEN FOR FRESH AIR, AND
THEN I SAW AN ORANGE GLOW UNDER THE FLOOR
BOARDS ADJACENT TO THE FIREWALL. AS SOON
AS I SAW THE GLOW, I ASSUMED FLAMES AND PUSHED
THE NOSE DOWN WHILE SHUTTING OFF THE FUEL
SELECTOR. THE SMOKE AND ORANGE GLOW QUICKLY
ENDED.

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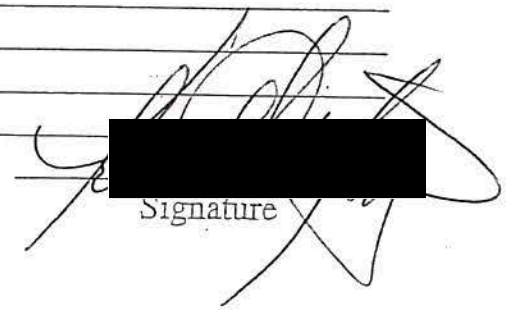
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In my own words, I will write what happened:

I THEN ATTEMPTED TO EXTEND MY GLIDE
AND CALLED A MAYDAY ON 1121.5 AFTER
TELLING THE CONTROLLER MY CIRCUMSTANCE
I WAS IN THE TREES. AFTER REACHING THE
GROUND I EXITED THE PLANE AND SHOT OFF
THE MASTER.


[Redacted Signature]
Signature