

INTERVIEW

07/05/2017

SECTION 1: GENERAL PIC INFORMATION

LOCATION: CENTRO MEDICO HOSPITAL, RIO PIEDRAS, PR

REASON OF VISIT: INTERVIEW THE Pilot in command of aircraft N9421J, Mr. Gabriel Alexis Fuentes Cruz, DOB [REDACTED], holder of private pilot certificate [REDACTED], with address [REDACTED] Bayamon, PR 00956.

INSPECTORS CONDUCTING THE INTERVIEW:

ASI Jorge Echegoyen – IIC
ASI Nusret Guvercin – Assisting

SECTION 2: INTERVIEW

The interview revealed the followings:

1. PIC stated that he conducted a pre-flight of the aircraft as per aircraft checklist. He observed that the color of the gasoline was blue, with no contaminants. He also stated that he performed a weight and balance, and he said that it may be still in the water. PIC stated that the aircraft was refueled just prior to this flight.
2. He stated that the purpose of the flight was a local flight to designated practice area, and return.
3. PIC and his 3 passengers boarded the airplane and he started, taxied and did a run-up, and all checks were OK.
4. He stated that on takeoff, the engine gages were in the green and developed full power.
5. After lift-off and initial climb, he felt/detected that the engine was rough, he called the tower, and wanted to return to runway 27. When asked by Inspectors about his altitude, he stated that the altitude was around 200 or 250 feet, and he was losing power, and the throttle had no response, he saw people on the ground on the marina and wanted to avoid them, and continued losing power. When asked by the inspectors if he tried any other thing for the emergency, such as switching fuel tanks, etc, he stated that he did not have time. [REDACTED]
6. PIC stated that he remembered very little or nothing after that point, and somehow he felt that the glass was broken and he was taken out, and he went unconscious.
7. When asked to see if he had a flight review, he received his instrument rating in July of 2016, he received an aircraft checkout on April 8th, 2017. He estimated his total flight time being very close to 200 hours.

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SECTION 1: GENERAL PASSENGER INFORMATION

LOCATION: CENTRO MEDICO HOSPITAL, RIO PIEDRAS, PR

REASON OF VISIT: INTERVIEW the passenger of aircraft N9421J, Mr. Jan C. Oliveras Perez

INSPECTORS CONDUCTING THE INTERVIEW:

ASI Jorge Echegoyen – IIC

ASI Nusret Guvercin – Assisting

SECTION 2: INTERVIEW

The interview revealed the followings:

1. Passenger stated that he is a private pilot with around 150 hours of flight time, and with instrument rating also. He observed that PIC was following the checklist for preflight, and this passenger provided the fuel strainer for the PIC for fuel check. He observed the PIC performing run-up, including carburetor check where aircraft was at idle and with carburetor heat applied, the engine was OK.
2. He further explained that the takeoff roll was normal, observed airspeed alive, 60 knots, and normal liftoff. He observed and stated that PIC reported engine being rough, called the tower and requesting to return to runway 27. He estimated the altitude to be around 200-300 feet. He also experienced the engine roughness and loss of power accompanied by vibrations. He stated that pilot tried hard to avoid people on the ground. As the pilot was turning left, passenger observed that the aircraft was losing airspeed, and he saw the stall warning light flashing and he called out to the pilot: "Airspeed" a few times.
3. He described the aircraft in a stall/spin attitude; [REDACTED].