



RECORD OF INTERVIEW

Daniel P. Boggs
Air Safety Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board
Office of Aviation Safety - Eastern Region

Date: May 23, 2018 at 1000 EDT
Person(s) Interviewed: Caleb Gessmann-witness
NTSB Case Number: ERA18FA152

Narrative:

Mr. Caleb Gessmann was interviewed in person. He is a pilot and owns a Bonanza.

Caleb stated he just landed his plane about 1845 EDT and called his friend Chase Zinn, (pilot of the accident plane) to tell him the weather was it was a nice day with no wind. Chase stated he would be right out to fly for a while. Chase drove to the airport and stopped to talk to Caleb about flying and fuel. Chase told Caleb that he was going to stay in the pattern and just perform touch n go's. The Time was about 1910 EDT. Chase then went over to his plane to start the preflight. After Caleb tied his airplane down, he drove over to Chase's airplane and set in the car talking with Chase while he performed the preflight. At that time, Chase was sumping the right wing. Chase brought over a sump bottle full of water and joked with Caleb about should he sump more then once. Chase went back to the right wing and sumped more to get all the water out. Caleb then told Nandish (passenger) that they would all go to dinner after they returned, and Caleb left at that point.



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Date: May 8, 2018 at 1630 EDT
Person(s) Interviewed: Christian Jose-witness
NTSB Case Number: ERA18FA152

Narrative:

Mr. Christian Jose was interviewed in person.

Mr. Christian stated he just returned home from being away a few months. He stated he and Chase went flying on Saturday the 19th. He stated they just stayed in the pattern and flew touch n go's. before the flight he remembers Chase sumped the tanks several times to get all the water out.

On Tuesday morning, the day of the accident, Christian flew again with Chase. He stated Chase again had to sump the tanks several times to get all the water out of each tank. He stated that they did not get fuel before they took off and does not know how much fuel was in the tanks. They flew to New Smyrna airport to get breakfast. During breakfast, Christian asked chase about fuel burn in this airplane, he did not stick the tanks during the preflight or before they left to go home from breakfast. Once they arrived back at the home base, they did not get more fuel. They just tied the airplane down.



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Date: May 29, 2018 at 1300 EDT
Person(s) Interviewed: Adam Taylor-witness
NTSB Case Number: ERA18FA152

Narrative:

Mr. Adam Taylor was interviewed in person. Mr. Taylor is a pilot.

Adam stated on the day of the accident, he was standing in his back yard taking pictures of workers mounting a video camera on the roof of the house so they could record the runway and watch planes taking off. Adam pulled out his phone to take a picture of the workers in the lift and during the picture taking he heard an airplane takeoff and thought it would be interesting to get a picture of the plane in the back ground. When the plane came into sight, he thought the airplane looked a little low and noticed he started a left hand turn. Then the airplane sputtered some and does not recall for sure if the engine quit or kept running. Adam then proceeded to take pictures as fast as he could and captured the entire stall and spin to the ground.

Adam turned over the pictures to me, Daniel Boggs, NTSB.



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Date: May 29, 2018 at 0900 EDT
Person(s) Interviewed: Karen Stenger-witness
NTSB Case Number: ERA18FA152

Narrative:

Ms. Karen Stenger was interviewed by telephone. She is a pilot.

Karen stated she was at the departure end of runway 6 talking to Wayne Asplundh. She watch the accident plane make a couple touch n go's. she is not sure how many but thinks 2 or 3. On the last touch n go, directly overhead she heard the engine sputter, then it revved up a little and sputtered again and quit all together. She stated it sound like it was running out of fuel or maybe water was in the tanks due to it raining for so many days before this flight.



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Date: May 23, 2018 at 0900 EDT
Person(s) Interviewed: Ronald Bishop-witness
NTSB Case Number: ERA18FA152

Narrative:

Mr. Ronald Bishop was interviewed in person. He is a pilot.

Ron and his wife were sitting in his glass atrium looking towards the end of the runway, he noticed a plane taking off and seen it when it was about 200 ft. above the ground when the engine sputtered twice and then quit completely. The plane then made a left bank like he was trying to come back to the runway when he stalled and fell to the ground. He ran over to the plane to help the pilots get out. Someone else found the maintenance records to the plane in a box and handed them to Ron,

Ron turned over the records to me. Daniel Boggs.



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Date: May 25, 2018 at 1200 EDT
Person(s) Interviewed: Wayne Asplundh-witness
NTSB Case Number: ERA18FA152

Narrative:

Mr. Wayne Asplundh was interviewed by telephone. He is a pilot.

Wayne stated he was at the departure end of runway 6. He watch his friend in the accident plane fly around the airport doing touch-n-go's. he thinks he did 3 or 4 but not sure. On the last touch n go, the airplane was directly overhead about 300 ft. when the engine sputtered and lost power, sputtered again all the way to the ground, he is not sure if the engine quit or not. He saw the plane make a left turn after the first sputter and when he was 90 degrees to the runway he stalled and spun to the ground.

Wayne stated he has flown with Chase, the pilot, last week.