



MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

Aaron McCarter
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region Aviation

Date: 03/18/2021

Person Contacted: Mrs. Amy Carpenter and David Carpenter (2nd Pilot)

NTSB Accident Number: ERA21FA142

RE: Interview questions provided to Mrs. Carpenter to review with her son.

Narrative:

Phone call to discuss the circumstances surrounding the accident. Mrs. Carpenter called from the hospital with her son (2nd Pilot) to answer the questions sent in an email on March 17, 2021. The call came in at 1210 and lasted about 10 minutes.

1.Can you describe the kind of work/maintenance that was being performed on the airplane the day before the accident? We have witness statements stating the airplane was being run-up on the ground for about 45+- minutes.

- He remembers the day before the accident. They had just installed a new carburetor and the mechanic/IA was re-jetting the carb because their EGTs were high. It was running too lean. That's why they were running the engine. He stated they operated the engine for about 15 minutes and checked the power settings. It seemed to work. The mechanic was there performing the maintenance and he (Carpenter) was there as a helping hand and gave tools to the mechanic. The mechanic was the one who installed the carburetor and was performing the maintenance during the engine run.

2.Can you describe the preflight before the accident flight?

- He cannot recall anything about the preflight.

3.How much fuel was on board?

- The day before, they topped it off with fuel. The airplane holds 30 gallons and the only fuel that was used was during the maintenance and engine run. On the day of the accident, they likely had about 90% full tanks.

5.How much time do you have in the airplane?

- He has about 15 hours in the airplane, and has only flown with his dad.

7. Can you describe the takeoff roll and engine performance during the accident flight.

- He cannot recall anything about the flight.

8. When the engine cowl opened during the takeoff roll, can you describe the actions you/father took. Any quick discussion about aborting, landing or continuing the flight?

- He cannot recall anything about the flight. He does not remember the cowl opening.

If there is anything else he remembers, he will call the IIC directly. Briefly discussed the investigation timeline.

[END]