



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Robert Gretz
Senior Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region Aviation

Date: August 21, 2021

Person Contacted: Charles Henley, Lexington, NC [REDACTED]

NTSB Accident Number: ERA21FA333

Narrative:

Mr. Henley was interviewed via telephone. He was the previous owner of the airplane and had owned it for about 2 years, based at NC03. The airplane had not flown since 2006 and the engine had about 20 hours SMOH. Mr. Henley bought the airplane as a restoration project but was unable to complete the restoration due to life circumstances and decided to sell it. He sold it on August 4, 2021, to Mr. John Styles, who was an A&P/IA. Mr. Styles drove his truck from Florida to NC03 to complete repairs, an annual inspection, and fly the airplane back to Florida. The repairs included replacing hoses, rebuilding a jammed fuel selector valve, repairing a corroded fuel line, and removing and checking one magneto. Mr. Henley further stated that about 1 week prior to the accident, Mr. Styles returned to Florida with the maintenance logbooks in his truck. Mr. Henley does not know if they were in the truck or airplane at the time of the accident. On the day of the accident, the airplane flew from NC03 to AFP uneventfully.



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Person Contacted: Ken Albey, LaBelle, FL [REDACTED]

NTSB Accident Number: ERA21FA333

Narrative:

Mr. Albey is a commercial pilot and good friend of Mr. Styles. Mr. Albey stated that the destination for the accident flight was Mr. Styles' home airport, X14. About 1 week prior to the accident, Mr. Styles performed an engine runup on the ground and notices that the engine was running very hot. He subsequently found bird nests under the cowling. When the nests were removed, Mr. Styles completed one short flight around the airport traffic pattern at NC03 uneventfully. On the day of the accident, the airplane departed NC03 and may have stopped at nearby EXX for fuel, with a planned stop at AFP for more fuel and a detailed inspection of the airplane by Mr. Styles after it had flown for about 1 hour. Mr. Albey will check Mr. Styles' residence for airplane logbooks. He believes Mr. Styles purchase an insurance policy for the airplane, effective the date of the accident, but cannot remember the name of the company.