

Record of Telephone Conversation

Name: Cody White, CFI, AMS Pilot School, Milton FL

Address:

Phone: [REDACTED]

Date: 12/6/2020, 1500 CST

Description: Witness to N78329 running off the end of Runway 18

Cody White is a CFI who works at AMS Pilot School at Peter Prince Airport, Milton, FL. Mr. White and his student, Eugene Polk were standing on the ramp about mid-field or slightly south of mid-field near a Cessna 172 completing a preflight inspection prior to a training flight. Mr. White was facing west and heard an airplane passing behind him and thought it sounded like it was going fast. He looked over his shoulder and saw the twin engine airplane rolling quickly towards the south end of the runway. He then saw it run off the end of the runway to the right.

He and his student thought someone might be hurt so his student, Gene Polk called 911. Mr. White could not see well from where he was. He and his student went down to the airplane. By the time they got there, someone was trying to pull the airplane back onto the taxiway with a golf cart. The golf cart was not strong enough so the owner went and got his truck. The owner was telling people that he had a left brake failure.

Mr. White noted the left propeller was bent and there was a lot of oil all over the left side of the airplane fuselage. There was a hole in the left wing leading edge as big as a fist and multiple dents in the leading edge. One of the runway lights was broken.

Mr. White did not see the airplane land and did not clearly see it run off the runway. He stated that he could tell by the sound when it went by behind him that it was going fast which is what made him turn around and look. He saw that it looked to be going off the end of the runway and into the grass on the right side.

Mr. White stated that another CFI was in an airplane with a student at the hold short line for 18 at the time of the accident and probably saw the airplane land. His name is Chris Rogers.

[REDACTED]
Nina A. McBride
Aviation Safety Inspector, OPS
AL/NW Florida FSDO, AFG-600-BHM-FSDO-09

(905) 876-1819
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Record of Telephone Conversation

Name: Retired Marine Corp Colonel Eugene "Gene" Polk
Address:
Phone: [REDACTED]
Date: 12/6/2020 15:04 CST
Description: Witness to N78329 rolling off runway 18 at 2R4

Mr. Polk is a flight student who training for his CFI at AMS Pilot School, Milton, FL. His instructor is Cody White. Mr. Polk arrived at the airport around noon for his lesson and began to prepare for his lesson. He was preflighting the airplane and noticed a few guys around the right wing tip of the Aztec, N78329 at that time. He was interested in the Aztec because it was a unique airplane on the ramp so he often noticed it when at the school. Shortly after that, he met with his instructor, Cody White. After some time spent briefing, Mr. Polk went back out to his airplane and he noticed the Aztec taxi by heading for runway 18. He did not pay much attention but thought there may have been two people on board. A few minutes later, Mr. White came out of the building to conduct Mr. Polk's lesson.

Mr. Polk and Mr. White were just completing a preflight discussion on the ramp about midfield in front of AMS when they heard an aircraft going by behind them. They were facing west and the airplane sounded like it was southbound over runway 18. Mr. Polk thought the airplane sounded like it was going fast and like it might be going around. He turned and looked over his shoulder and saw the airplane on the ground and rolling towards the departure end of runway 18. His instructor, Mr. White then said, "I think that guy went off the end of the runway."

Mr. Polk, who has served as a Director of Safety in the Marine Corp, was concerned that someone could be hurt so he called 911. He and Mr. White walked down the ramp and could see some people down by the airplane, trying to move the airplane with a golf cart.

As Mr. Polk was walking down the ramp to the airplane, he noted the airplane was facing west. When he got there, he could see there was oil all over the left side of the fuselage, the left propeller was bent, the left wing leading edge was dented in a number of places outboard of the left engine and there was a hole in the left wing leading edge that was the size of his fist. People were saying that the pilot was claiming that he lost his left brake. Mr. Polk looked under the left wing and did not see any hydraulic fluid leaking or in excess on the left wheel. He also looked at the runway and could not see any skid marks from the aircraft's track off the runway. He saw that the west ODAL light was broken off and pieces were in the grass. At some point, a fire truck showed up and the EMS people spoke to the pilot. The pilot claimed he was not hurt and the fire truck left pretty quickly.

Since the golf cart was not powerful enough, one of the people went and got a truck. The airplane was then towed to the ramp where it had been parked for the last few weeks. Mr. Polk had noticed people working on the airplane at various times for the last few weeks.

People were also saying that the airplane had recently come from Pensacola where it had been in maintenance for an annual inspection.

[REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]

Record of Telephone Conversation

Name: Chris Rogers, CFI AMS Pilot School

Address:

Phone:

Date: 12/7/2020 11:15 am CST

Description: Witness to landing of Aztec N78329, 12/6/2020 at 2R4

Mr. Rogers was in a CE-172 with a student pilot sitting in the run-up area near the hold short line of runway 18 at Peter Prince Airport on 12/6/2020. He noticed a twin engine airplane go past them going very fast and was high for short final. He remarked to his student, "this guy better go around." He estimates that the airplane touched down about midfield or just south of that. A moment later he remarked, "this guy is going off the end of the runway!"

Mr. Rogers could see the vertical stabilizer going off the runway and to the right. He thought the airplane may have turned off the end of the runway onto the taxiway somehow and he noticed it had come to a stop and was not moving from that spot. Another CFI came on the CTAF and said that the airplane ran off the runway and that Mr. Rogers and his student should not take off. Mr. Rogers and his student taxied back to the ramp. The airport was closed for a little while until the accident airplane was moved to the ramp.

Mr. Rogers did not actually see the airplane go off the runway because there is a slight hump at midfield. He could only see the vertical fin. The departure end of the runway 18 pavement is not visible from where he was in the run up area for runway 18. Mr. Rogers does not think his student saw very much because he is a low time student and would have been looking past Mr. Rogers who was in the right seat.

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