



RECORD OF INTERVIEW

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Office of Aviation Safety - Eastern Region

Date: 7/12/2023 0930
Person Interviewed— Jesse Sadler-pilot
NTSB Case Number: ERA23LA295

Narrative:

Mr. Jesse Sadler was interviewed by telephone.

Jesse stated that he was spraying some agricultural spray in a field when he flew back to the fuel truck for fuel. He radioed his spotter and asked if the area was clear, and the spotter told him it was. He was attempting to land on a trailer when the tail rotor came into contact with some tree limbs and several tail rotor blades separated from the helicopter. The helicopter immediately lost tail rotor authority and began to spin. The pilot then tried to move the helicopter away from the trailer and land on the ground. The tail rotor and gearbox separated from the helicopter and flew about 100 ft north of the trailer. The pilot then landed the helicopter on the ground, but the main rotor blades contacted another tree and all the main rotor blades separated from the mast. The pilot reported that there were no preimpact mechanical malfunctions or failures with the helicopter that would have precluded normal operation.

Dan Boggs
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