

From: [Erik Nielsen](#)
To: [Eric Alleyne](#)
Subject: Incident on Aircraft Tail Number N7535Z
Date: Friday, July 26, 2024 12:16:53 PM

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Hey Eric,

I am the student that was involved in the autorotation incident on aircraft tail number N7535Z. I just wanted to reach out to you with my account of the events leading up to the incident.

We started the evening with some hovering practice. As it began to get darker, we began flying short loops around the airport to practice taking off, flying, and coming in to land. Our first loop went smoothly, my main focus was the controls, the instructor guided me and took care of activating the carb heat as we were preparing to land. Our second loop started much like the first, but it had gotten darker, making it difficult to see some of the controls in the cockpit. As we made our way around and began preparing for our approach to land, I wanted to be as involved as possible, so I asked, "Carb Heat?" To which the instructor responded, "Yes." I then reached down and pulled the knob. As soon as I pulled the knob, the engine shuttered, the warning lights illuminated, and the alarm began buzzing. When this happened I realized that I had accidentally pulled the air/fuel mixture knob instead of the carb heat. I said, "That wasn't the carb heat." To which the instructor responded, "Nope." I then asked, "What do you want me to do?" The instructor replied, "Nothing!" I then took my hands and feet off the controls and the instructor autorotated into a wheat field.

Hopefully this is what you needed. If you have any questions or need addition details, feel free to reach out.

Best Regards,

Erik Nielsen