



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Michael Hicks

Air Safety Investigator

(GAAID) General Aviation Accident Investigation Division

July 27th, 2016

NTSB Accident Number: GAA16CA313

Aircraft Registration & Make/Model: N20361, Air Tractor/AT-802A

Accident Location: Cairo, IL

Accident Date: 12JUN2016 @ 0745 cdt

Subject: Memorandum for Record of FAA Statement (Inspector Allmond)

In support of the NTSB accident investigation involving accident airplane N20361 in Cairo, IL, the following is a statement was provided by the Federal Aviation Administration Aviation Safety Inspector that arrived at the accident site.

Michael,

I remember talking to the pilot and a mechanic that was on site. They stated that they went back the following day and inspected the assembly, noticed it was gummed up with fertilizer and the pin was not in place. They moved the lever to set the pin and noticed the pin was bound up. I talked to some other 137 operators and they said this is why it is important to grease the tailwheel daily and if possible clean it off in between every load. This operator didn't do any of that. Apparently this is a common problem, but most people catch it before it turns out like this. If you look at one of the pictures I sent you can see the tailwheel is turned completely sideways, if it was locked it would not look like that. That picture was taken shortly after the accident and before they connected the dots on the tailwheel not being locked.

I can try to contact him if you need any further information.

Adama Allmond

Principal Operations Inspector

Springfield, IL FSDO

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