



NTSB RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Adam Gerhardt
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General Aviation Accident Investigation Division, AS-20

Date: 7/13/2017
Person Contacted: Gerald Donovan (Pilot in Command)
NTSB Accident Number: GAA17CA407

Narrative:

The following is a summary of a conversation that occurred with the individual named above:

- He reported that the accident occurred around 7:30AM local and he departed on runway 36.
- He reported that the airplane had, "so much P-factor, I had a hard time keeping the airplane on the runway."
- He reported that he had completed multiple high-speed taxis prior to the accident takeoff, and everything functioned normal with the airplane and there were no flight control issues. He reported that it was as if there wasn't enough rudder authority during the accident takeoff.
- He reported that during the takeoff roll, the airplane veered to left, so he lifted the nose at 50 knots, but the airplane's direction of travel was headed toward high weeds to the left, off the runway. During the initial climb, the left wing struck the weeds and the airplane was pulled into a ditch.
- He reported that he had about two hours of total flight time in the airplane, which was the entire time on this airframe. He reported that the previous owners did not fly the airplane.
- He was asked if there was any "flight control problem." He stated "no." He stated that "there were no malfunctions." He stated that the rudder moved freely.
- He stated, "maybe it was my technique, I should have used brake."
- He reported there were no modifications done to the airplane.
- He further stated, "elevator, and rudder travel were all normal."