

Incident/Investigation Report

Agency: MPD

Case Number: 16-047890

Date: 11/17/2016 16:39:58

LIMA, a witness in this case. LIMA furnished me with the following information.

WITNESS (1) STATEMENT: LIMA, Chad A/Hwn/M/C

Statement obtained fronting the entrance of [REDACTED] Kamehameha V Highway, Molokai, Hawaii.

LIMA stated last night, Tuesday, 11/15/16 between 7:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., he was traveling east on Kamehameha V Highway, in the area of "Monico's" corner (mile post 16.75), when he seen a bright flash. Shortly after, he described the flash to have turned into "glimmering lights". LIMA said he could see the bright flash and lights through the rain clouds, located far north toward the Wailau rim. He described the area between the old Ronnie GILMEN's cabin/ridge, and Gary GALIHER's ridge. LIMA described the weather as dark, with heavy wind and rain.

Nothing further to add.

WITNESS (2) STATEMENT: LESTER, Curtis D. A/Hwn/M/C

On 11/16/16 at approximately 1100 hours, I contacted the male identified as Curtis LESTER, a witness in this case. LESTER furnished me with following information.

Statement obtained fronting LESTER's residence, [REDACTED] Kamehameha V Highway, Molokai, Hawaii.

LESTER said between 6:30 p.m. and 6:45 p.m., he could hear a helicopter passing his residence (area of Pukoo Harbor). Upon closer observation, he noticed that it was Gary GALIHER's helicopter traveling east on the coastline. The helicopter then made a hard left turn inland toward the mountain, at which time hearing about twenty to thirty loud popping sounds coming from the helicopter. LESTER said he felt that it was unusual that GALIHER would travel the coastline, and that he usually travels more toward the mountain area when heading toward his residence.

LESTER said the weather was dark, with heavy wind and rain. Nothing further to add.

WITNESS (3) STATEMENT: SOUKUP, Meghan A/Cau/F/C

On 11/16/16 at approximately 1120 hours, I met with the female identified as Meghn SOUKUP, fronting the Pukoo Fire Station. SOUKUP furnished me with the following information.

SOUKUP said on Tuesday, 11/15/16, at approximately 6:36 p.m., she observed a helicopter approaching her residence from the south-west. It appeared the helicopter was traveling at a lower altitude then normal. Upon further observation, it appeared that the helicopter belonged to Gary GALIHER. SOUKUP said she is familiar with GALIHER's helicopter by the sound and time that he travels the area. SOUKUP said upon the helicopter approaching her residence, she could hear the engine slow and "downshift", causing the helicopter to hover

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over her residence. While over the residence, SOUKUP was illuminated by the helicopter's spotlight. SOUKUP said she waived toward the aircraft, and watched it make a right turn south-east and toward the ocean. The helicopter then straightened out and headed east along the shoreline. SOUKUP said she watched the helicopter travel several mile down the coast and observed the aircraft make a left turn toward GALIHER's property. SOUKUP wasn't able to see anything else because of the periodic heavy rain.

SOUKUP said the weather was bad. There were times of periodic heavy rain and heavy wind. Nothing further to add.

Note: Two digital photos were taken depicting GALIHER's helicopter at the time. The first photo was taken at 1836 hours, and second photo taken at 1837 hours. Photos was not turned over to police at this time.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS:

On 11/16/16 at approximately 1345 hours, I initiated a flyby onboard Rescue-1/Air-1 aircraft. Observation of the crash site revealed, heavy burnt tree/brush line and scattered aircraft debris located on a east mountain slope. It was apparent that there were no survivors.

SCENE:

The scene is described as a secluded heavy wooded/mountain area, approximately 1.3 miles north of mile post #17.25 (Honomuni Valley), Kamehameha V Highway, Molokai, Hawaii.

SEARCH PERSONNEL:

The search personnel included the following:

- 1.) Rescue-10/Air-1
- 2.) Engine-4
- 3.) Engine-12
- 4.) Coast Guard Rescue Helicopter
- 5.) Maui Police Department/ Molokai District

AIRCRAFT MAKE/MODEL:

Black in color, Hughes-500, Identification No. 81GG.

VICTIM (1) IDENTIFICATION:

Name: GALIHER, Gary (Operator)

Add: [REDACTED], Honolulu, Hi. 96817

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Supplement Notes

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

On Wednesday, 11/16/2016, at approximately 0721 hours, I was assigned by Acting Sergeant Lonnie KAAI to assist Officer CAPARIDA in making checks for Gary GALIHER at his residence located at [REDACTED] Kamehameha V Highway, Eastend, Molokai. Related one of GALIHER's employees called after no one could get a hold of GALIHER this morning.

CHECKS MADE:

Checks made at the residence revealed no signs of GALIHER at the residence nor the helicopter at the helipad.

CONTACT MADE:

On 11/16/2016 at 1015 hours, I made contact with Lionel ADACHI, and Bill BEBIEFF, employees of Gary GALIHER at the helipad at GALIHER's residence on the Eastend, Molokai. The following statement were obtained from both, ADACHI and BEBIEFF.

STATEMENT OF:

Lionel ADACHI

Adu/Hwn/ Mal/Cit

ADACHI stated on Tuesday, 11/15/16, at about 1730 hours, he received a text from Bill BEBIEFF on how's the weather on Molokai, because GALIHER was flying over. Stated he texted BEBIEFF back saying, "Mountains is little wet and the clouds are low out East near the house". However BEBIEFF informed him that GALIHER had left already, heading over with a female passenger to Molokai. Stated at around 1830 hours, while at his residence in Kaunakakai town he noticed GALIHER's helicopter fly over his residence, heading out East.

Stated on 11/16/16 at about 0436 hours he received a text from BEBIEFF to call him up. He called and BEBIEFF asked him to make checks at the residence and helipad to see if GALIHER was there. Stated he made checks and noticed GALIHER was not at his residence and the helicopter is not at the helipad. He then informed BEBIEFF of his findings.

ADACHI had nothing more to relate.

STATEMENT OF:

Bill BEBIEFF

Adu/Cau/Mal/Cit

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BEBIEFF stated that GALIHER and a female passenger, only known to him as "Keiko" departed Honolulu yesterday (11/15/16) evening, at about 1745 hours in GALIHER's Hughes 500 helicopter.

BEBIEFF stated that prior to GALIHER leaving Honolulu, he was trying to convince him to not fly because of the weather, however, GALIHER insist of flying because he has realtor business to take care of in Molokai today (11/16/16). Stated he then contacted Lionel ADACHI, who resides on Molokai and a caretaker of GALIHER's residence on how's the weather like on Molokai. Stated ADACHI texted back saying the mountains are wet and very low dark clouds near the house, however, GALIHER insisted of leaving, so he told GALIHER to call him when he landed on Molokai, and GALIHER left.

Stated a couple hours passed and he didn't receive any calls from GALIHER so BEBIEFF decided to call GALIHER's cell phone to check if he got there, however was met with no answer. Stated he then contacted ADACHI to make checks, however ADACHI informed him that GALIHER did fly over his house in Kaunakakai town about 2 hours ago, and he probably forgot his phone somewhere. Stated he then assumed GALIHER at home and had gone to bed.

On 11/16/16 at about 0430 hours, he checked his phone and still no calls from GALIHER and became concerned. He called GALIHER's phone again and it went straight to his voicemail. Stated he then contact ADACHI on Molokai to make checks at the residence.

BEBIEFF stated that he has been working for GALIHER as a helicopter mechanic for over 10 years, and he described GALIHER as an experienced helicopter pilot.

BEBIEFF had nothing further to relate.

REFER TO KEY REPORT:

Submitted by Officer S. CAPARIDA.

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ASSIGNMENT/ARRIVAL

On 11/16/16 at about 0907 hours, I was assigned by acting Sgt. KAAI to conduct a follow up with personal from the Molokai airport tower located at the Molokai Airport in Hoolehua. At about 0920 hours, I arrived on scene and met with Thomas FUNKHOUSER, air traffic control manager for Molokai. He related the following.

STATEMENT OF: Thomas FUNKHOUSER A/M/CAU/CIT

On 11/16/16 at about 0925 hours, I interview FUNKHOUSER within the Molokai airport tower. He related the following.

FUNKHOUSER related he is aware of Gary GALIHER's helicopter that is missing. Stated he was working on 11/15/16 at about 1818 hours when GALIHER radioed in from La'au point on Molokai however he was unable to understand him due to a bad radio connection. Added at about 1825 hours, GALIHER radioed in again and stated "I'm east bound approximately 700 feet above ground and right off of Mud flats (which is approximately 5 miles southeast of the Molokai tower, per FUNKHOUSER). Related that was the last time he heard from GALIHER. Stated at that time everything seems fine and nothing was out of the ordinary.

FUNKHOUSER further added that his tower has an air space of five miles which means that anybody that comes within his radius has to radio in with his tower. Related once he radioed in, he is unsure if he change his channel or stayed on the Molokai tower channel. Added he didn't get any emergency or "may day" call.

FUNKHOUSER added he checked with all the airports in Hawaii and GALIHER's helicopter was not seen or heard of from the radio.

Stated his worker, Eric KORPI, possibly seen GALIHER's helicopter last night, 11/15/16.

Nothing further to add.

STATEMENT OF: Eric KORPI A/M/HAW/CIT

On 11/16/16 at about 0930 hours, I interviewed KORPI within the Molokai airport tower. He related the following statement.

KORPI related on 11/15/16 at about 1845 hours, he was at home located at [REDACTED] Kamehameha V Highway in

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the area of mile post marker 14, when he seen a helicopter flying low just above Wavecrest. Stated he is unsure if that helicopter was GALIHER's but knows that he usually fly's that path. Added the helicopter was flying east however turned around headed back west. He was unsure if he was just circling around because the weather was really bad or turned around. Related he didn't really think much of it until he came to work, when he found out that GALIHER's helicopter was missing.

Nothing further to add.

FOLLOW UP

On 11/16/16 at about 1100 hours, I contacted the law office of Gary GALIHER, known as Galiher Derobertis Waxman. I was contacted by GALIHER's legal assistant, Shawn ARRISGADO via phone. She related the following.

STATEMENT OF: Shawn ARRISGADO A/UNK/F/CIT

On 11/16/16 at about 1100 hours, I interviewed ARRISGADO via phone. She related the following.

ARRISGADO related she is the legal assistant of Gary GALIHER. Stated she last seen him on 11/15/16 at about 1400 hours leaving the office. Related she is aware of his helicopter missing from yesterday (11/15/16).

When asked if she knew a female by the name of "Keiko", she related yes and added her last name is KUROKI. Stated she is a realtor and is close friends with GALIHER. Added she heard that she might be on the helicopter with GALIHER.

She further added that GALIHER's friend, Robert OKANO was one of the last person that seen GALIHER leave the island of Oahu. Related she would contact him and have him call this officer when he is available.

Noting further to add.

OFFICER'S NOTE

On 11/16/16 at about 1302 hours, Robert OKANO contacted the Molokai dispatcher to speak with this officer. Shortly after, I contacted OKANO via cell phone. He related the following statement.

STATEMENT OF: Robert OKANO A/M/UNK/CIT

On 11/16/16 at about 1304 hours, I interviewed OKANO via cell phone. He related the following statement.

OKANO stated on 11/15/16 at about 1800 hours, he and his friend, Bill BEBIEFF, watched GALIHER and a

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female passenger by the name of "Keiko" leave Honolulu within GALIHER's helicopter. Added they were going to Molokai, where GALIHER occasionally resides, to take care of some business on 11/16/16. Related he was to return back to Honolulu on 11/17/16.

Further added he noticed GALIHER wearing a bright orange long sleeve shirt and jean pants. Further related "Keiko" was wearing a brown or tan colored shirt or blouse.

OKANO had nothing further to add.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Refer to original report.

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MISC. ACCIDENT

MANAE, MOLOKAI, HI 96748

OFC E. MATSUO# 15420

MOLOKAI PATROL / 5-A-10

11/16/2016

ASSIGNMENT / ARRIVAL:

On 11/16/2016 at about 0942 hours, Central Dispatch assigned me to meet with an adult male that may have information pertaining to an incident that other patrol units were investigating on the East end of Molokai.

I arrived at about 0946 hours and met with an adult male identified as Antone KEAWE, fronting the residence located at [REDACTED] Seaside Place in Kaunakakai, HI 96748, who related the following.

INVOLVED OTHER 7'S STATEMENT: KEAWE, Antone A/M/HWN/CIT

Interviewed fronting the residence located at [REDACTED] place in Kaunakakai, HI 96748, Antone KEAWE related the following.

Antone KEAWE reported that on 11/15/2016 at about 1915 hours, he heard a helicopter flying over his residence located at [REDACTED] Kamehameha V Highway (near Mile Marker 16) in Kaunakakai, HI 96748. He related that he recognized the helicopter as belonging to a friend named Gary GALIHER, and observed the helicopter with all of its spot and strobe lights activated.

KEAWE related that he observed GALIHER's helicopter flying near the coast and attempting to approach the what appeared to be GALIHER's landing pad from the oceanside, taking a South to North flight pattern. He described the flight pattern as unusual as GALIHER frequently flies his helicopter close to the mountainside and approaches from a West to East flight pattern.

KEAWE related that he continued watching the helicopter as it appeared to attempt a landing North (Mauka) of GALIHER's residence near Mile Marker 17 of Kamehameha V Highway, in the area where GALIHER has a landing pad for his helicopter. He described the weather as very windy and rainy and believed this was the cause of GALIHER's unusual flight pattern.

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KEAWE related that shortly after he observed the helicopter attempting to approach the landing pad, it was completely enveloped in what appeared to be heavy cloud cover and rain and lost complete sight of the helicopter and all of its lights. He related that he did not hear or see anything to indicate a crash or any type of emergency.

He had nothing further to add.

SUPERVISOR NOTIFICATION:



Refer to other officers' reports for all other notifications.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Refer to other officers' submitted reports for more information.

OFC. E. MATSUO# 15420
D5 / MOLOKAI PATROL
11/16/2016 @ 1100 HOURS