



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Michael Huhn
Air Safety Investigator
Western Pacific Region

Date: September 4, 2018
Person Contacted: Mr. Byron Bly, (Eyewitness)
NTSB Accident Number: WPR18FA251

Narrative:

The following is a synopsis of the information provided by Mr. Bly in a telephone conversation on this date:

- Mr. Bly is currently a CFI and commercial airline pilot
- He and a student were in a Cirrus SR-22T
- The student was a private pilot, Mr. Philip Schuster
- They were taxiing for departure from POA, where they are based
- They were on Twy Z, approximately midfield, heading for the threshold of Rwy 13
- They were 3rd in line behind a Pilatus (front) and a King Air
- They were on PAO ground control frequency at the time
- Mr. Bly and his student watched the accident Mooney touch down, somewhere ahead of them
- He saw the Mooney begin to "porpoise," oscillating in pitch and alternately contacting/bouncing from MLG to NLG
- He observed 3 to 4 cycles
- While this was occurring both he and his student stated out loud (intra-cockpit) for the pilot to "go-around"
- They then saw the Mooney lift off and the landing gear retract
- At that point Mr. Bly ceased watching the Mooney
- His student continued to watch the Mooney, and very shortly thereafter, shouted (intra-cockpit) "whoa, whoa" and asked what the Mooney pilot was doing
- Mr Bly turned to look at the Mooney
- He saw it enter a very steep left bank (70°-80°) and watched the nose pitch sharply down (approx. 60°), and then descend very rapidly to the ground/water
- As the Mooney entered the left bank and AND attitude, its heading changed to its left and the final heading was approximately the reverse of the departure (~130°) heading

- Mr. Bly then used his mobile phone to call his FBO (Advantage Aviation) and advise them that a Mooney had crashed, and checked to see if it was one of theirs- it was not
- Mr. Bly has Mooney experience and noted that the model is susceptible to porpoising
- He also noted that in a porpoising event, there was a likelihood of a propeller strike on the runway
- He noted that his student planed to file a written report of his observations with the NTSB [which Mr Schuster did accomplish]