



Joshua Cawthra
Senior Aviation Accident Investigator
Office of Aviation Safety - Western Pacific Region

Date: January 16, 2024

Subject: WPR24FA073

Contact: Will Fernandez- Mechanic / AFC Works

During a telephone conversation, Mr. Fernandez stated that they worked on the airplane in June or July, and fixed various oil leaks from the rocker box covers. He stated that they removed the propeller for overhaul by Sullivan Propeller in Hayward and had reinstalled it before Thanksgiving sometime. He added that he provided the owner with logbook entries and did not have possession of the logbooks for the airplane or engine.



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Contact: Brandon Thompson- Mechanic / Absolute Aero

During a telephone conversation, Mr. Thompson recalled that sometime during the summer, the pilot had gone to their facility due to various oil leaks on the airplane. Mr. Thompson said that when they took off the cowl, and it was a mess. After they solvent washed the engine, performed a ground run in front of their shop, and observed no leaks. He stated that the pilot was going to re-cowl the airplane, and fly it around the airport once, to which afterward, the pilot told him that it looked fine and he would continue to watch for leaks.

Mr. Thompson recalled that sometime in the fall, the pilot brought the airplane in for an issue with the brakes. He looked at the brakes, said they looked strange, and figured out what they were. Mr. Thompson said he told the pilot that he should contact the brake manufacturer to buy new parts. At the same time, the 3 blade MT propeller was leaking, and Mr. Thompson obtained quote for an overhaul. He told the pilot he could keep watching it but it would need to be overhauled at some point. Mr. Thompson said that shortly after that, he noticed the propeller was removed from the airplane and that the airplane had set on the ramp with no propeller, cover on, for a few months.