

# Memorandum of Conversation

Date: June 10, 2020  
Time: 1445 central daylight time  
Conversation Including: Ryan Frank, Flight Instructor  
Conversation Regarding: CEN20CA225, N2681D  
Duration of Call: 25 Minutes



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## Summary & Factual Information from Conversation:

NTSB Investigator Fox called Mr. Ryan R. Frank to discuss the Cessna 170B (N2681D) airplane accident that occurred on June 9, 2020, at the Aitkin Municipal Airport (AIT), Aitkin, Minnesota.

Mr. Frank was providing dual instruction to a student pilot who was the owner of the airplane. Mr. Frank noted that this was his first flight with the student pilot, who had previously flown with other instructors. The student pilot had flown about 88 hours before the accident.

Mr. Frank stated that they departed Aitkin Municipal Airport (AIT), Aitkin, Minnesota, about 1040 CDT and flew to Brainerd Lakes Regional Airport (BRD), Brainerd, Minnesota, where they completed several full-stop landings in the tailwheel-equipped airplane. Mr. Frank stated that the student made 5 uneventful landings at BRD before he took control of the airplane made 2 uneventful landings himself.

The student pilot then flew back to AIT where he made a straight-in approach to runway 8. Mr. Frank stated that the surface winds were 6-7 knots from the south, which resulted in a right crosswind during landing. The student pilot crabbed the airplane into the right crosswind during final approach, and before landing flare transitioned into a sideslip with right wing down and left rudder to keep the airplane aligned with the runway direction. Mr. Frank stated that the student intended to make a full-stall, 3-point, landing on the 140 ft wide grass runway with 1 notch of flaps extended.

Mr. Frank stated that the airplane bounced and began to drift left over the runway. Mr. Frank told the student pilot to add engine power and go-around. The student pilot increased engine power, but the airplane continued to drift left over the runway. The airplane bounced a second time, at which time Mr. Frank took control of the airplane. Mr. Frank stated that the airplane was "skimming the grass" and was "behind the power curve" as he attempted to regain control of the airplane and establish a climb. The airplane impacted the airport perimeter fence about 60-80 yards left of the runway edge. The accident occurred about 1210 CDT, about 1.5 hours after the flight departed AIT.

Mr. Frank stated that there were no mechanical anomalies with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation. He additionally stated that the engine responded to full power when the student pilot advanced the throttle after the first bounce. Mr. Frank confirmed that neither he nor his student were injured during the accident.

--- End of interview summary ---

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I can attest that the above summary and factual information was taken on the above stated day, and is correct to the best of my knowledge:

Signed: \_ Andrew Todd Fox \_

Dated: \_ June 10, 2020 \_

**Andrew Todd Fox**  
**National Transportation Safety Board**  
**Air Safety Investigator**