



## **RECORD OF INTERVIEW**

**Daniel P. Boggs**  
**Air Safety Investigator**  
**National Transportation Safety Board**  
**Office of Aviation Safety - Eastern Region**

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**Date: July 8, 2015 at 13:00 EDT**  
**Person(s) Interviewed: Felix Dennis - Witness**  
**NTSB Case Number: ERA15FA259AB**

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### **Narrative:**

On the morning of the accident, Mr. Felix Dennis and his son were fishing from a boat in a rice field located adjacent to the west branch of the Cooper River. While positioned near a duck blind in the middle of the rice field, Mr. Dennis noticed the Cessna flying overhead from the direction of Old Highway 52 (roughly from west to east). He then observed a military jet flying overhead coming from the direction of Moncks Corner (roughly from north to south). The two airplanes collided almost on top of the duck blind, at an estimated altitude of 300 yards overhead. He further described that both airplanes were “very low,” and that he had never seen airplanes flying at that low of an altitude over that specific location in the past. The military jet struck the left side of the Cessna, and debris then began falling all around them. Mr. Dennis did not have the impression that either airplane had attempted any maneuvers immediately before the collision. A large black cloud of smoke appeared after the collision, but no fire was observed. After the collision, the military jet then “powered up,” turned right, and flew southbound roughly following the river.

Mr. Felix then called 911 and began moving his boat towards the wreckage that had fallen in an attempt to locate survivors.



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**Date: July 8, 2015 at 10:00 EDT**  
**Person(s) Interviewed: Theodore Martin Cox - Witness**  
**NTSB Case Number: ERA15FA259AB**

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### **Narrative:**

On the morning of the accident, Mr. Cox was standing in his back yard overlooking the west branch of the Cooper River with Ms. Nancy Clearman and Ms. Laura Harper. He stated that they generally liked to watch small aircraft as they flew by and would routinely wave to the pilots and observe the pilots rocking their airplane's wings as a response. Mr. Cox watched and waved as a small red and white airplane (the accident Cessna) flew by from his right to left (roughly west to east). He next saw a military jet flying in the direction of the small plane, coming from his left rear (roughly north to south). The military jet collided with the left side of the accident Cessna and parts started falling down with some landing in his yard. Other parts were falling in the river, and on the opposite shore of the river.

Mr. Cox stated it looked as if the military jet tried to "pull up" just before impact. After the impact, the military jet turned right, and flew down the river to the south and out of sight. Once out of sight he heard several loud "bang" noises.



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**Date: July 8, 2015**  
**Person(s) Interviewed: Molly Harings - Witness**  
**NTSB Case Number: ERA15FA259AB**

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### **Narrative:**

Detective-Captain Shuley of the Berkley County Sheriff's department conducted an initial interview of Ms. Harings on July 7, 2015. Below is a summary of that interview.

“On this day July 7, 2015 at 10:55 am I heard a loud explosion outside in the backyard, followed by an aircraft sound overhead. I went immediately to the window, and saw a black cloud in the sky with debris floating down to the water. First thoughts: did the pilot eject, did someone shoot a mortar off at the airplane, take a picture. Some moments went by as I ran upstairs to get my phone to take the picture. The black cloud was so dense it was still in roughly the same area as I saw it first. I did not see the airplane out of my back window but heard it fly off to the east. The photo was taken at 11:02 am July 7, 2015. I called the police department at 11:05 am who patched me through to dispatch but I never reached anyone.”

Daniel Boggs of the NTSB and James Dangerfield of the FAA conducted a follow-up interview on July 8, 2015 at witnesses' residence. During the interview Mr. Harings recounted the same series of events as she had described to the Detective-Captian on the previous day. Additionally, she provided an electronic copy of the photo she had taken of the black (smoke) cloud.



Photo 1 - Photo Provided by Ms. Harings

Stacy Thomas

KMKS

Felix Dennis

Theodore Cox

Molly Harings

