



## RECORD OF CONVERSATION

**Tealeye Cornejo**  
Air Safety Investigator (Field)  
Western Pacific Region

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Person Contacted: David Gonzales Phone: [REDACTED] email: [REDACTED]  
Dob: [REDACTED] Certificate: [REDACTED]

**NTSB Accident Number: WPR16FA148AB**

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### Narrative:

According to Mr. Gonzales, there were no mechanical problems with his airplane.

Mr. Gonzales reported:

0415 departed his house for work

0440 arrived at Growers Air Service and received his cards for the fields that he would be work that day. The cards identified what product he would be spraying and the location of the field.

0500 he performed a preflight of the accident airplane. Gave the loader copies of the cards, so that the product (chemicals) could be mixed. He waited for a call from his supervisor to release him for the first job.

He had a total of 4 cards for the day.

The first job was an organic apple field

Second job was an alfalfa field located at Beshims corner (on the corner of highway 99E/113. As he was coming back from the second job, he called the supervisor to tell him that job 3 had people on it and was not ready to spray. He was advised to skip job 3 and go to job 4, which was 2-3 miles north of the rice field.

On the way to job 4, he flew by job 3 and looked for obstacles. He sprayed the field and departed back toward the airport. As he was flying back he looked to the southwest (his right), saw a field being sprayed, but it didn't seem to be an issue. 1 mile northeast of the field, he looked to the right and saw the nose of an airplane coming straight at him. He pulled back on the stick and felt the impact of the other airplane hitting the undercarriage of his airplane.

After the collision, he continued east, but was losing altitude and smoke was coming out of the engine area. He lowered the dump handle to off load any product, but he said it was empty. He leveled the wings and landed in a field.

Mr. Gonzales stated that when he looked to the right the airplane was between the cockpit and the wing at the 1 O'clock position. He said there was no time to react and that he knew they were going to hit. After he yanked back on the stick, he looked over to the left and saw the other airplane in a flat spin and then impacted the rice field. He stated that the airplane spun counter-clockwise and appeared to be a flat spin. Mr. Gonzales stated that everything was in slow motion. When he looked forward he saw an open field. At that point he wasn't sure the airplane was still producing power.

Mr. Gonzales stated that he normally flies about 500 feet agl but wasn't sure what altitude he was at, at the time of the collision. Once he landed, he exited the airplane and called his supervisor. After his supervisor arrived at his location, the fire department and ambulance arrived.