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Subject: CEN23FA084

Contact: Michael Gabster, Aviation Safety Inspector - FAA San Antonio FSDO

Michael Gabster traveled to the Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, to speak with Kennon Vaughn, the surviving passenger. The following is an interview summary provided by Michael Gabster.

1. Can you tell us what you remember about the accident?

Mr. Vaughn talked about the ride to the airport in Memphis with the pilot "Steve Tucker" and said that he had flown with him several times in the past and he was very organized and competent. He remembered asking the pilot if the flight was a go, the pilot responded that the only concern was a strong headwind. I asked Mr. Vaughan if weather was discussed and he said no. Mr. Vaughan said that he listened in on the pilot's conversation for about half the flight and didn't hear any discussion out of the ordinary, he wasn't listening to them right before the accident.

He did state that going into Yoakum, they were off course, and the pilot was struggling with the aircraft to get it back on course. Mr. Vaughan remembered hearing the warning alarm several times and the aircraft "aggressively pitching up" with more warning alarms than "aggressively pitching down". He said that he couldn't see anything out the windows due to the clouds/fog until right before they hit the ground. He remembers that the right wing was pointing at the ground just before impact.

2. How was the weather like?

Mr. Vaughn stated that it was low clouds in Memphis, and they flew above that until they descended into Yoakum which he described as very low clouds and fog.

3. Did you have any visibility looking out the window? Was it foggy?

No visibility descending into Yoakum.

4. Do you remember the Strobe lights flashing at the time they were landing or prior to accident?

He does not remember seeing strobe lights flashing.

5. Who was flying the airplane at the time of the accident?

Steve Tucker.

6. Did you hear any of the conversation from the pilots at the time prior to accident?

No, he wasn't listening prior to the accident. The only thing he overheard was that they were off course.

7. Did you feel like the aircraft was climbing and then falling? Did you feel weightless?

Mr. Vaughan's exact words were "aggressively pitching up" with more warning alarms then "aggressively pitching down" right before impact.

8. Any conversations prior to the flight on how the weather was at Yoakum prior to take off in Memphis?

No.

9. What is your weight fully clothed?

175 lbs.

10. Did you notice the passenger sitting in front of you? Was he wearing his seatbelt? Was he thrown around the cabin?

Mr. Vaughan said that the passenger sitting in front of him was strapped in and was not thrown around the cabin.

11. When you are able, please write a statement on what happened.

I gave his wife my card and asked him that when he was able, to provide us with a written statement.

Nothing Follows