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Timothy W. Monville
Sr. Air Safety Investigator
OAS-Eastern Region Aviation

Date: August 2, 2023

Subject: ERA23LA191, Record of Conversation/Interview

Contact: William Midwood

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) inspector Midwood contacted NTSB by phone on April 13, 2023 at 1640 EDT. He called from [redacted] He provided an e-mail address of [redacted]

Both fuel tanks were breached, though during the on-site investigation they drained fuel from the right wing fuel tank into a 5-gallon bucket and the depth of fuel was 3.5 inches (Figure 1). He was asked to get the diameter of the bucket and in a later produced Inspector Statement indicated the diameter was 11.75 inches. He indicated that the airframe fuel strainer was drained and found to contain about 40 milliliters of fuel (Figure 2). The airframe fuel strainer was torn from the firewall and the supply line was kinked (Figure 3).

While on-scene the emergency locator transmitter (ELT) was turned off. In addition, the carburetor heat operationally checked good, and felt normal. The throttle and mixture controls were continuous from the cockpit to their respective levers on the carburetor and operationally checked good. The airplane was not equipped with any shoulder harness.

As part of recovery of the wreckage, personnel from Colonial Air, Inc., removed both wings.

The call ended at 1704 EDT.

The digest was e-mailed to him for review on August 2, 2023. He replied on August 3, 2023, at 0702 EDT with, "Good morning Tim. I have reviewed this statement along with my notes and the photographs. The statement is correct and accurate. V/r Bill Midwood." The FINAL digest was e-mailed to him on August 7, 2023.

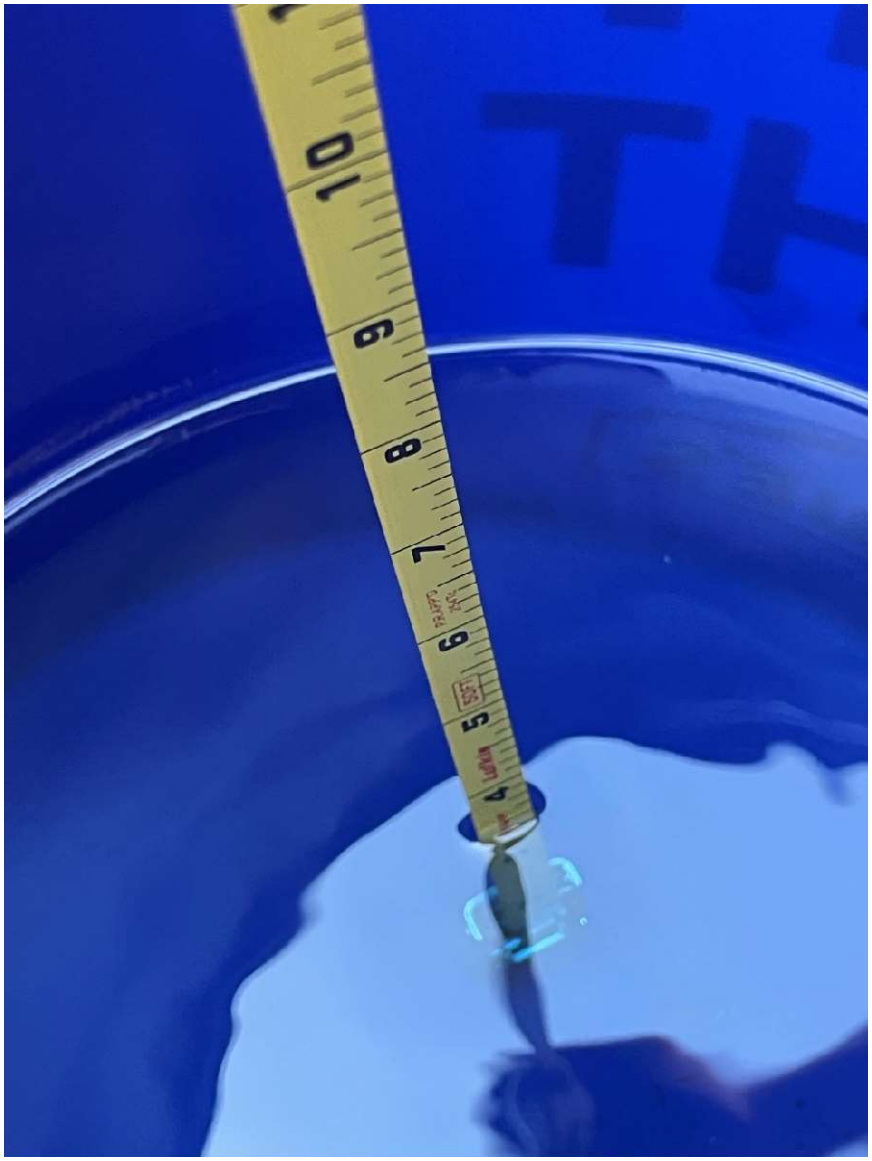

Figure 1: FAA Digital Photograph. View of the Level of Fuel Drained From the Right Wing Fuel Tank Into a 5-Gallon Bucket.

Figure 2: FAA Digital Photograph. View of the Fuel Drained From the Airframe Fuel Strainer. Note the value was about 40 milliliters.

Figure 3: FAA Digital Photograph. View of the Separated Airframe Fuel Strainer. Note the Damaged Fuel Inlet Line.