



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Joshua D. Cawthra
Senior Aviation Accident Investigator
Western Pacific Region

Date: April 25, 2022
Person Contacted: Luke Aikins (Pilot of N3694U)
NTSB Accident Number: WPR22LA165

Narrative:

During a telephone conversation, Mr. Aikins reported that he was not completely sure why the airplane (N3694U) had entered a spin after he exited the airplane, however, thought that it was due to the added ballast (fuel in the wing tanks) to offset the safety pilot weight. Mr. Aikins stated that the airframe was outfitted with a ballistic parachute system, which he incorporated a CYPRES device, commonly used in skydiving to automatically deploy the parachute at 1,000 ft, which worked as expected. Mr. Aikins added that the parachute system fired the rocket while inverted, and that the parachute was only partially deployed at the time of the airplane impacted the ground.