



Michael J. Hodges
Investigator-In-Charge
Office of Aviation Safety, Central Regional Office

Date: 03/09/2023

Subject: CEN23FA125

Contact: Witness - Stacy and Linda Hedrick

The NTSB IIC spoke with Stacy and Linda Hedrick in person at their residence. They are a married couple that live at [REDACTED] Seadrift, Texas, 77983. They can be reached at [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] They have lived fulltime at that location for several years. They are both used to hearing and seeing their neighbor takeoff and land in his helicopter. Linda reported that not a lot of people live in the neighborhood fulltime, as people use their homes for weekend getaways.

They were both home on the afternoon and the evening of March 6, 2023.

About 1500 or, Linda observed her neighbor land the helicopter on the concrete road next to his home. Linda reported that he always takeoffs and lands from the concrete road. During that time, she did not hear any abnormal noises emit from the helicopter.

About 2145 or so, Linda heard her neighbor's helicopter start up. From her living room window, she observed the helicopter's anti-collision lighting system operating. Linda noted that it was extremely foggy outside when the helicopter took off. Stacy reported that he noticed that the wind was calm during that time. During that time, Linda did not hear any abnormal noises emit from the helicopter. She could barely see her boat dock from her living room, which was about 75 ft away. She also could not see the other side of the canal due to the fog. She did not hear or see the helicopter impact terrain.

This was the first time she noticed the helicopter departing in the dark.

Nothing Follows



Michael J. Hodges
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Office of Aviation Safety, Central Regional Office

Date: 03/10/2023

Subject: CEN23FA125

Contact: Witness - George Ganem

The NTSB IIC spoke with George Ganem over the telephone. He lives at [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Seadrift, Texas, 77983. He can be reached at [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] He has lived fulltime at that location for several years.

He was home on the evening of March 6, 2023.

About 2140 or so, George heard his neighbor takeoff in his helicopter from across the lake. During that time, he did not hear any abnormal noises emit from the helicopter. He did hear what he believed was a muffled impact noise, however he did not know at the time what happened.

George estimated that the visibility from his home looking outward toward the lake was about 400 ft or so due to the presence of fog. He estimated that the fog rolled into the area around 1900 or so. He estimated that the wind condition was between 5 to 7 knots, originating from the southeast.

Nothing Follows



LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION / DIVISIÓN DEL CUMPLIMIENTO DE LA LEY

VOLUNTARY STATEMENT / DECLARACIÓN VOLUNTARIA

State of / estado de: _____

County of / condado de: _____

Person giving statement / nombre completo de persona dando la declaración: JEFF + KATHY BORTON

Residence Address / dirección residencial: _____

City/State/Zip Code – ciudad/estado/código postal: _____

Home Phone / # de teléfono de casa: JEFF [REDACTED] Office Phone / de oficina: KATHY [REDACTED]

D.O.B. / fecha de nacimiento: _____

DL/ID – licencia de conducir / # de identificación: [REDACTED]

Location where statement given / lugar donde la declaración fue dada:

[REDACTED]

Persons present during statement / nombres de personas presentes durante la declaración:

JEFF + KATHY

☐ This statement is being written by the game warden at my request (Initials ____). ☐ Esta declaración está escrita por el guardia de vida silvestre a petición mía (iniciales ____)

I am the person named above. I am giving this statement to the game warden whose signature appears below. This statement is being given voluntarily, without fear, duress or threat, and without promise of leniency. Yo soy la persona antes nombrada. Le doy esta declaración al guardia de vida silvestre cuya firma aparece a continuación. Le doy esta declaración voluntariamente, sin miedo, coacción o amenaza, y sin promesa de lenidad.

Helicopter came in and landed 6pm on roadway.
Man + woman got out. He was dressed in shorts. Woman
had pants + Khaki jacket on. He unloaded bags onto
ground. Made no eye contact with us.

CALHOUN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Voluntary Statement

DATE 3-7-23 TIME 10:37 Q AM/PMNAME OF PERSON MAKING STATEMENT PETER LANGEDATE OF BIRTH [REDACTED] DRIVER'S LICENSE# [REDACTED] SS# _____HOME ADDRESS [REDACTED] HOME PHONE# [REDACTED]WORK PLACE HOME WORK PHONE# 11LOCATION OF STATEMENT [REDACTED]

I, PETER LANGE, make the following statement voluntarily, without fear, threat, or coercion, and without any promises of reward, personal gain, or benefit.

WITNESSED THE CRIPPER LAND @ 7 pm MONDAY
EVENING. IT TOOK OFF AGAIN AROUND 7:45 - 8 PM
IT WAS GETTING DARK AND FOGGY AROUND 8 PM
WE HEARD A BOOM WE LOOKED OUTSIDE BUT IT
WAS REALLY FOGGY AND SAW NOTHING.

I am aware of the fact that it is unlawful to make a false report to a Peace Officer (T.X.P.C.37.08) I affirm that the above information is true and correct.

SIGNATURE OF PERSON MAKING STATEMENT: [REDACTED]

RECEIVING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE: _____