



Heidi Kemner
Senior Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region Aviation

August 8-10, 2021

Subject: ANC21FA069
Who: Alaska State Trooper – Sgt. Derek Cottle

In a text conversation, with Trooper Cottle, he stated the following:

- When he traveled up to the accident site two days after the accident, there was no smell of aviation fuel.
- He does not think he, nor any of the other first responders, touched the controls or moved any of the switches in the airplane.
- He does not believe they even had the ability to inadvertently move them while removing the remains.



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August 11, 2021

Subject: ANC21FA069
Who: John Yank – Coast Guard Rescue Swimmer

Mr. Yank was lowered to the accident site about 1 hour after the accident occurred to check the occupants.

In a conversation, he stated the following:

- He and the other rescue swimmer, Grant Robin, had a difficult time entering the airplane.
- They tried to enter it by using their crash axe. They peeled back a section of the fuselage to gain access to the cabin area.
- He did not, nor did his partner, touch any switches or levers while working at the accident site.
- He did not smell any fuel when he was at the accident site.



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August 11, 2021

Subject: ANC21FA069
Who: Kyle Worman – Ketchikan Volunteer Rescue Squad

In a conversation, with Mr. Worman stated the following:

- When he traveled up to the accident site two days after the accident, there was no smell of aviation fuel.
- He was one of the first responders that removed the remains from the wreckage.
- While he was working, he moved the throttle a little bit, but it was in the full forward position before it was moved.
- He did not move any switches or knobs while he was in the airplane.



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August 11, 2021

Subject: ANC21FA069
Who: Brett Serlin – Ketchikan Volunteer Rescue Squad

In a conversation, with Mr. Serlin stated the following:

- When he traveled up to the accident site two days after the accident, there was no smell of aviation fuel.
- He was one of the first responders that removed the remains from the wreckage.
- He did not move any switches or knobs while he was in the airplane.
- He was working with Kyle Worman to remove the remains.
- One of the other KVRS workers, Jerry Kiffer, turned the ELT to the OFF position.



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August 9, 2021

Subject: ANC21FA069
Who: Eric Eichner – Chief Pilot – Temsco Helicopters

In a conversation, Mr. Eichner stated the following:

- He was flying the helicopter performing search and rescue operations.
- They launched the helicopter about 30 minutes after they were notified that an ELT was going off.
- He was flying the helicopter about 400 ft msl because the clouds in the valley where the airplane was found were at 600 ft msl.
- The clouds were about 1500 ft at the highest point in that bowl.
- He was talking to the Coast Guard pilots while they were flying above the wreckage (after they dropped the rescue swimmers in to check on the occupants) and the Coast Guard pilot stated that “he was in the soup” and that he was in out of the clouds.
- The Coast Guard rescue swimmers were on the site there for about an hour. They were there a while.