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Crashed Aircraft Site Report

Date Visited: 07 Aug 2020

Model & Serial Number: C-54D #42-72469, pending imaging analysis of subsurface glacier and/or excavation

GPS Coordinates: N 61-15-27.31 W 139-21-01.41

Datum: WGS 84

Country: Canada

State/Province/District: Yukon Territory

Nearest Town/Village: Burwash Landing

Distance/Direction: 3-day trek W of Burwash Landing

Altitude: 7,546 ft.

Topography: Mountains, glacier

Aspect: NE

Terrain Notes: Glacier

Vegetation: None at site

Nearest Water: Small stream flowing from NW end of glacier

Site Disturbance: Significant disturbance caused by avalanches, rockfalls, crevasses, glacier migration

Aircraft ID Method: Undetermined

Engines/Propellers: Undetermined

Wreckage/Artifacts/ID Tags: Undetermined

Human Remains: None seen by investigator

Removed from Site: Nothing removed by investigator, not known if others removed anything

Photos: See website for photos, additional photos/video on file

Misc. Notes: Estimated point of impact is Burwash Glacier or ridge along NE edge of glacier, near NW end of glacier. Burwash Glacier lies along NE base of Mount Hoge and flows from SE to NW. NW end of glacier is base of glacier. Base of glacier is in narrow draw. Almost constant rockfalls come down onto glacier from flanks of Mount Hoge. There would be snow avalanches coming down onto glacier during winter and spring months. These rockfalls and snow avalanches could be large and occur regularly. It is a very unstable area and too dangerous to linger in. Research shows aircraft wreckage could be wholly concealed under thousands of tons of accumulating snow, ice and rock. Similar scenarios have occurred in Greenland and Antarctica where there is insufficient melting to expose buried objects.

Access is from Alcan Hwy. near Burwash Landing. Go W following Duke River upstream. Cross over mountain ridge to W and enter Burwash River watershed. Trek upstream to Burwash Creek. Burwash Creek flows from NW end of glacier and is a tributary of Kluane River. Areas searched include Duke River, Burwash Uplands, Badlands Creek, Granite Creek watershed, Granite Glacier, Burwash Glacier and NE aspect of Mount Hoge.

Investigator: Clayton Kuhles