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Crashed Aircraft Site Report

Date Visited: 07 Aug 2020

Model & Serial Number: C-54D #42-72469, pending imaging analysis of glacier subsurface and/or site 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: Grasses in drainage below glacier

Nearest Water: Small stream flowing from NW end of glacier

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

Aircraft ID Method: Process of elimination/deduction

Engines/Propellers: Undetermined

Wreckage/Artifacts/ID Tags: Wreckage found in drainage below glacier

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. Rockfalls come down onto glacier from flanks of Mount Hoge during summer months. There would be snow avalanches coming down onto glacier during winter and spring months. Rockfalls occurred almost constantly during site visit in Aug. It's a very unstable area and dangerous to linger in. There's also a possibility the glacier has some hidden crevasses. Evidence indicates C-54 wreckage is buried within glacier under an accumulation of ice and rock.

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