

Accident No. 111

Date 11/1

Checked by 1

Analyzed by R. B. H.

Copied for Wright

Field by

Notes

1225:9-43

RESTRICTED

Accident No. 139

WAR DEPARTMENT
U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES
REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

1. Place: AAF Station 139 (2) Date: 10 May 1944 (3) Time: 1609
Aircraft: (4) Type and model: B-17C (5) A. F. No.: 42-31249 (6) Station: 139
Organization: (7) 8th AF (8) 100th (9) 349th
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

PERSONNEL

Duty	NAME	RATING	SERIAL NO.	RANK	PERSONNEL CLASS	BRANCH	AIR FORCE OR COMMAND	REPORT TO PERSONNEL	USE OF PARACHUTE
(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)
0/P	KEYS, JOHN P.	P	0-810894	2nd Lt.	18	AC	8th AF	None	No
1/CP	SAMUELSON, ELVIN W.	P	T-61947	F/O	1892	AC	8th AF	None	No
2/N	LOLLIS, PATRICK H.	N	0-706941	2nd Lt.	1801	AC	8th AF	None	No
3/P	DICKENS, ELTON (NMI)	B	0-757704	2nd Lt.	1801	AC	8th AF	None	No
4/R	THOMAS, FRANK O.	RO	11070824	S/Sgt	1820	AC	8th AF	None	No
5/E	PARK, HARRY D.	E	36477145	S/Sgt	1820	AC	8th AF	None	No
6/ST	MARTIN, PETER P.	AG	39122647	Sgt	1820	AC	8th AF	None	No
7/RW	COSTANZA, JOSEPH A.	ARO	32704992	Sgt	1820	AC	8th AF	None	No
8/LW	BORBA, GILBERT A.	AE	39123538	Sgt	1820	AC	8th AF	None	No
9/TC	RIEGER, DONALD V.	AG	19198814	Sgt	1820	AC	8th AF	None	No

PILOT CHARGED WITH ACCIDENT

(20) KEYS, JOHN P. (21) 0-810894 (22) 2nd Lt. (23) IF (24) AC
(Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Branch)
Assigned (25) 8th AF (26) 100th (27) 349th (28) AAF 139
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
Attached for flying (29) 8th AF (30) 100th (31) 349th (32) AAF 139
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
Original rating (33) Pilot (34) 30 Aug 43 (35) Pilot (36) 30/6/43 Instrument rating (37) None
(Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date)

First Pilot Hours:

(at the time of this accident)

(38) This type: B-17 117:45 (39) Instrument time last 6 months: Not applicable
(39) This model: B-17C 117:45 (40) Instrument time last 30 days: Not applicable
(40) Last 90 days: All Types 102:15 (41) Night flying time last 30 days: Not applicable
(41) Total: All Types 117:45 (42) Night flying time last 30 days: Not applicable

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE 91944

DAMAGE

(46) Aircraft: 1 4 2 4 1 1 (47) Engine(s): 1 4 2 4 1 1 (48) Propeller(s): 1 4 2 4 1 1
Left wing, in, left outboard & inboard panel, left landing gear and flap, #2 engine. Airplane salvaged.

(50) Weather at the time of accident: At 1600 hours: 1/10 cumulus 4000 feet; 6 - 8/10 altocumulus and altostratus above 10,000 feet. Visibility 8 miles. Surface wind: 10 MPH west.

(51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident: No (52) Cleared from: 139 (53) To: 139 (54) Kind of clearance: contact

(55) Pilot's mission: Local formation

(56) Nature of accident: Landing accident

(57) Cause of accident: Left tire flat.

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DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

(Brief narrative of accident. Include statement of responsibility and recommendations for action to prevent repetition)

The copilot was making a normal approach; landing on runway 28. The plane touched down and rolled approximately 400 yards when the left tire blew out. The plane started off the runway. The pilot regained control, but was unable to get the left wheel back on the runway. The wheel struck a square of concrete just before the intersection of the two runways 28 - 10 and 17 - 35, causing the failure of the left strut and subsequent damage.

It is the opinion of this Board that the accident was unavoidable and not the fault of the pilot.

(53) AAF Form #54 has not been submitted.

J. B. Kild

JOHN B. KILD
Lt. Col., Air Corps,
President.

Samuel H. Reiser
SAMUEL H. REISER
Major, Air Corps,
Member.

Maurice P. Youngs
MAURICE P. YOUNGS
Captain, Air Corps,
Member.

Exhibits Included:

- A - Pilot's Statement Of Accident
- B - Photographs
- C - Flying Control Officer's Statement
- D - Convening Authority

Signature _____
(Investigating Officer)

Date _____

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HEADQUARTERS
ONE HUNDREDTH COMBOMBENT GROUP (H), AAF
Office of the Operations Officer
APO #559

10 May 1944

SUBJECT: Pilot's Statement Of Aircraft Accident Of 10 May 1944.

TO : Aircraft Accident Board, Station #139.

1. My co-pilot was landing the aircraft (42-31249). He made a normal approach with an air speed of 130 miles per hour, breaking it to 115 miles per hour at the edge of the runway. The ship landed on two front wheels with the tail slightly low. The left tire blew out, and I took over the controls. It seemed that I was going to be able to hold it on the runway. However, when the speed was reduced, the ship took a sharp turn off the runway to the left. I gave full right rudder, and throttles on the left side, also brakes on the right side. I was able to control the ship until I hit a cement block at the intersection of runways 28 - 10 and 17 - 35. The left landing gear was torn loose, folding the strut back under the wing, allowing the number 1 and 2 engine propellers to hit the ground. The flaps of the left wing and left wing tip also struck the ground.

John P. Keys

JOHN P. KEYS
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot.

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FLYING CONTROL SECTION: STATION 139
APO 559

11 May 1944

TO : Aircraft Accident Committee, Station 139.

Concerning: Aircraft accident of May 10, 1944 in which B-17C, number 249L, of the 349th Squadron, this base, crashed while landing on runway 28. The pilot made a normal approach and touch down and when about 400 yards down the runway had a flat tire on the left side. The punctured tire caused the plane to swerve to the left. The left wheel ran along the grass on the left side of the runway and hit a cement drain block just before the 17 intersection. When the wheel hit the drain block it broke the oleo strut and the plane settled on to its belly and left wing on the intersection.

No personnel were injured.

Donald F. Thurlow

Donald F. Thurlow

1st Lt. U. S.

Duty Control Officer

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POSTMASTER: MAY 10 1944 STATION NO. 139

10 150

Special Orders)
Number.....111)

28 April 1944

1. Extracted. (AM 28th Corp Sq DL Sheffield.)
2. Col John F Callahan, 11398307, 456th Sub-Depot (Cl 1), is reld fr Sp Dy with Sta Armament & reasgd Sp Dy with Sta S-3.
3. S Sgt Jack E Marshall, 14162077, 350th Bomb Sq, is red to the gr of Private, for cause, off this date. (Auth: AR 615-5.)
4. Pvt John C Riffle, 15070053, 350th Bomb Sq, is promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant (Temp), off this date. (Auth: AR 615-5.)
5. CAPT GEORGE D ALLEN, 0394310, 44th Sta Comp Sq, is apptd Ground Officers' Mess Officer, in addition to his other duties, vice 1ST LT LOUIS (21) MOORE, 0572741, reld.
6. 1ST LT JOHN R OLSON, 0561792, 418th Bomb Sq, is apptd Consolidated Mess Officer, in addition to his other duties, vice 1ST LT EDWARD J GILBERT, 0572013, reld.
7. 1ST LT FRANKLIN S SEIBERT, 0572013, 418th Bomb Sq, is apptd Station Mess Officer.
8. Par 2, 30 72, this Hq co, apptd Aircraft Accident Committee, is rescinded.
9. In accordance with Par 1, Part C, AAF Regulation No. 62-14, as modified by Section 3, VIII AF Memo 60-2, the following named officers are appointed a permanent Aircraft Accident Committee for this station. The first-named officer is designated as Aircraft Accident Officer:

LT COL JOHN B KIDD	0556626	Hq Det 100th Gp
CAPT SUMNER H REEDER	072493	418th Bomb Sq
CAPT MAURICE F YOUNG	0442321	Hq Det 100th Gp
CAPT ALBERT E NIKKELSEN	0703430	418th Bomb Sq

10. T Sgt Paul A Vreese, Jr., 15212351, 350th Bomb Sq, WP on TD o/a 1 May 44, for app seven (7) days, exclusive of travel, fr AAF Sta 139 to Portsmouth for the purpose of COCG. STAG.

While at TD Sta EX will be paid allowances not to exceed \$2.00 per day or more, as outlined in Cir 65 STOUZA 43.

TEST TDN PD 91-K P 432-32 & 3425-24. (Auth: Ltr Hq 8th AF, Subj: For Ken Alwa at Post House, 43 22 Nov 43 and Ltr Hq STOUZA 3 Nov 43.)

By order of Lt Col FENTON:

Horace L. Variadi, Jr.
HORACE L. VARIADI, Jr.,
Captain, Air Corps,
Station Adjutant.

HORACE L. VARIADI, Jr.,
Captain, Air Corps,
Station Adjutant.



