

Accident No. 7

Date

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Notes

1225:9-43

RESTRICTED

WAR DEPARTMENT U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES

REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

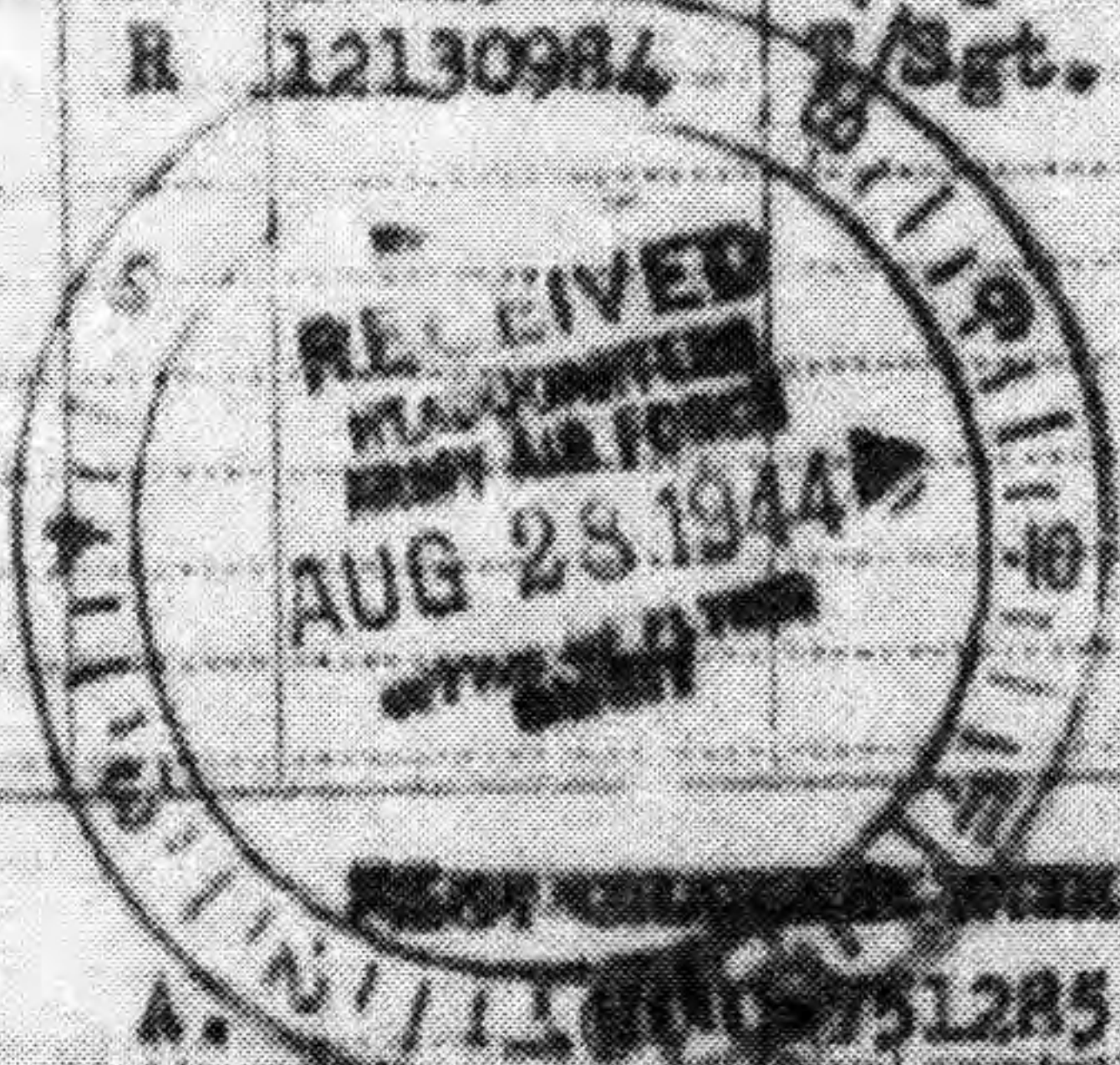
ACCIDENT NO.

457-28-527
138
4

(1) Place AAF Station 139 (2) Date 28 July 1944 (3) Time 1509
AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model B-17G (5) A. F. No. 42-97393 (6) Station AAF 139
Organisation: (7) 8th AF (8) 100th (9) 349th
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

PERSONNEL

DUTY (10)	NAME (Last name first) (11)	RATING (12)	SERIAL NO. (13)	RANK (14)	PERSONNEL CLASS (15)	BRANCH (16)	AIR FORCE OR COMMAND (17)	RESULT TO PERSONNEL (18)	USE OF PARACHUTE (19)
01 P	EHORN, MERLE A.	P	0-751285	1st Lt.	18 O	AC	8th AF	none	no
04 CP	MITCHELL, PAUL L.	P	0-691148	1st Lt.	18 O	AC	8th AF	none	no
65 N	KING, BYRL L.	N	0-886853	1st Lt.	18 O	AC	8th AF	none	no
67 E	THEOBOLD, FRED C. JR.	E	18226256	S/Sgt.	312 O	AC	8th AF	none	no
69 AE	RONDEAU, JAMES W.	E	17025720	T/Sgt.	202 O	AC	8th AF	none	no
71 R	BRADY, RICHARD F.	R	12130984	T/Sgt.	312 O	AC	8th AF	lacerations	no



(20) EHORN (Last name) (21) MERLE (First name) (22) A. 751285 (Middle initial) (23) 1st Lt. (Rank) (24) AC (Branch)
Assigned (25) 8th AF (Command and Air Force) (26) 100th (Group) (27) 349th (Squadron) (28) AAF 139 (Station)
Attached for flying (29) 8th AF (Command and Air Force) (30) 100th (Group) (31) 349th (Squadron) (32) AAF 139 (Station)
Original rating (33) Pilot (Rating) (34) 28-7-43 (Date) Present rating (35) Pilot (Rating) (36) 28-7-43 (Date) Instrument rating (37) 14-5-44 (Date)

FIRST PILOT HOURS:

(at the time of this accident)

(38) This type B-17 137:50 (39) Instrument time last 6 months not applicable
(39) This model B-17G 137:50 (40) Instrument time last 30 days not applicable
(40) Last 90 days B-17 137:50 (41) Night time last 6 months not applicable
(41) Total All types 160:50 (42) Night time last 30 days not applicable

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

NF AMW 9-4

DAMAGE	(43) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
(44) Aircraft <u>0-3</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	structural nose and belly damage four prop and engine changes.
(45) Engine(s) <u>M 4</u> <u>M 4</u> <u>M 4</u> <u>M 4</u>	
(46) Propeller(s) <u>M 4</u> <u>M 4</u> <u>M 4</u> <u>M 4</u>	

(50) Weather at the time of accident 4/10 - 6/10 at 600'; light intermittent rain; visibility three (3) miles; Wind - SSE 10-15 MPH

(51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident no
(52) Cleared from 139 (53) To 139 (54) Kind of clearance Cross-country
(55) Pilot's mission Cross-country non-operational flight.
(56) Nature of accident landing gear retracted on landing roll

(57) Cause of accident Copilot raised the gear instead of flaps.

(58) Has AAF Form 54 is being submitted.

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DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

1. 1st Lt. PAUL R. MITCHELL, copilot, is 100 per cent in error on this accident, having mistakenly raised the landing gear instead of the flaps on the landing roll.

J. E. Kidd

JOHN E. KIDD,
Lt. Col., Air Corps,
President.

Summer H. Reader

SUMNER H. READER,
Major, Air Corps,
Member.

Maurice P. Yousels

MAURICE P. YOUSELS,
Captain, Air Corps,
Member.

EXHIBITS ENCLOSED:

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

Signature _____

(Investigating Officer)

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

30 July 1944

SUBJECT: Pilot's Statement of Accident of 28 July 1944.

TO : President of Aircraft Accident Board, AAF Station 139.

1. As we were nearing the end of runway 35 I called for the copilot to unlock the tail wheel. Then the aircraft settled abruptly to the runway. The wheels had collapsed. I cut all switches and looked over to see if the wheel switch was in neutral. I saw the safety latch up and the switch forward in the up position. Everyone left the aircraft.

Merle A. Enorn
MERLE A. ENORN.
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot.

EXHIBIT "A"

RESTRICTED

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FLYING CONTROL SECTION: STATION 139
APO #559

28 July 1944.

SUBJECT: Aircraft Accident involving B-17 # 297393 of
the 349th Heavy Bombardment Squadron

TO : Chairman, Aircraft Accident Committee, Station
139, APO #559

1. Pilot involved: 1st Lt. Merle L. Ehorn, O-751285
of the 349th Heavy Bombardment Squadron.

2. Time of accident: 1509 hours 28 July 1944.

3. Synopsis of accident: Lt. Ehorn landed on runway
35 returning from a non-operational cross country flight.
Pilot made a normal landing. While taxiing at a very slow
speed to clear the end of the runway both landing gears col-
lapsed about 60 yards from the up wind end of the runway.

4. Damage to aircraft: All four props ruined; ball
and chin turrets smashed; trailing edge of flaps damaged.
The aircraft did not catch on fire.

5. Injuries: T/Sgt. Grady, very bad lacerations on
the left forehead.

6. Crash crew and ambulances immediately dispatched and
the necessary personnel were notified by phone of the accident.

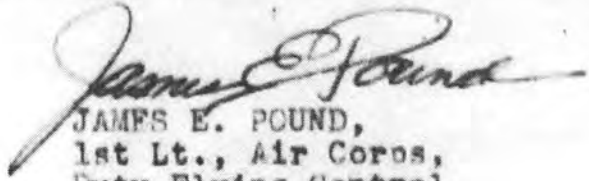

JAMES E. POUND,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Duty Flying Control
Officer.

EXHIBIT "I"

HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCE STATION NO. 139
D 559

Special Orders)
Number.....111)

28 April 1944

1. Extracted. (SM 28th Comp Sq De Sheffield.)
2. Col John F. Callahan, 11286317, 456th Sub-Depot (C1 1), is relieved of duty with 3rd Armament & re-assigned to duty with 3rd S-3.
3. S Sgt Jack E. Marshall, 14163077, 350th Bomb Sq, is promoted to the grade of Private, for cause, effective this date. (Auth: AR 615-5.)
4. Pvt John C. Riffle, 15073055, 350th Bomb Sq, is promoted to the grade of Staff Sergeant (Temp), effective this date. (Auth: AR 615-5.)
5. Capt GEORGE D. ALLEN, 0394310, 35th Sta Compl Sq, is appointed Ground Officers' Mess Officer, in addition to his other duties, vice 1st LT LG IS (C1) MOSELEY, 0572741, reld.
6. 1st LT JOHN R. OLSON, 0561793, 418th Bomb Sq, is appointed Consolidated Officers' Mess Officer, in addition to his other duties, vice 1st LT FRANKLIN S. SEIBERT, 0572741, reld.
7. 1st LT FRANKLIN S. SEIBERT, 0572741, 418th Bomb Sq, is appointed Station Mess Officer.
8. Par 2, SM 72, this Hq co, of the Aircraft Accident Committee, is reconstituted.
9. In accordance with Par 1, Part 6, 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. KILD	6896626	Hq Det 100th Gp
CAPT SUMNER H. REIDER	0736303	349th Bomb Sq
CAPT MAURICE F. YOUNG	0447321	Hq Det 100th Gp
CAPT ALBERT H. NIKELSEN	0799430	349th Bomb Sq

10. T Sgt Paul A. Vrebor, Jr., 15013634, 350th Bomb Sq, WP on TD c/a 1 May 44, for app seven (7) days, exclusive of travel, for A-F Sta 139 to Bournemouth for the purpose of COCG, CTAG.

While at TD Sta K will be furnished allowance not to exceed \$2.00 per day or subs, as outlined in Cir. 65 STORSA 43.

TENT. TDN FD 91-5 P 472-02 A 0425-24. (Auth: Ltr Hq 8th AF, Subj: For Non Alms at Rest Home, 41 22 Nov 43 and Ltr Hq ETOWSA 5 Nov 43.)

By order of Lt Col Vrebor:

EXHIBIT "C"

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

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

RESTRICTED

NAME OF PILOT

TYPE OF PLANE

ACCIDENT NUMBER

Ehorn, Merle A

B-17G

45-7-28-529

CHARGED TO

OUT

IN

CHARGED TO

OUT

IN

CHARGED TO

OUT

IN

(640-43-2-100)(287-40)7393-349-B1767

