

Accident N

45-7-28-515

Date

Checked by

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Notes

122519-43

RESTRICTED

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

ACCIDENT NO. 4-1-130

(1) Place AFF Station 139 (2) Date 28 July 1944 (3) Time 1320
AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model B-17G 42- (5) A. F. No. 102598 (6) Station AAF 139
Organization: (7) 8th AF (8) 100th (9) 351st
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

PERSONNEL

Category	NAME (Last name first)	RATING	SERIAL NO.	RANK	PERSONNEL CLASS	RELIGION	AIR FORCE OR COMMAND	STATUS OF PERSONNEL	TYPE OF PARACHUTE
(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)
P	RANSOM, JAMES R.	P	0-792742	1st Lt.	01	AC	RAF	none	no
CP	LAMB, KEITH W.	P	0-629830	2nd Lt.	18	AC	RAF	none	no
N	WALDMAN, FRANCIS J.	N	0-814457	2nd Lt.	18	AC	RAF	none	no
B	WOOD, JAMES H.	B	0-701511	2nd Lt.	18	AC	RAF	none	no
TI	PELCE, REGINALD D.	E	39274556	T/Sgt	38	AC	RAF	none	no
RO	SCHMITT, E.P.	R	36044539	T/Sgt	38	AC	RAF	none	no
BT	WARGIN, LEO (NMI)	G	36613814	S/Sgt	38	AC	RAF	none	no
WG	ALLEN, CARL J.	G	36477223	S/Sgt	38	AC	RAF	none	no
TG	BYWATERS, WILLIAM B.	G	18199029	S/Sgt	38	AC	RAF	none	no

(20) RANSOM, JAMES R. (21) 0-792742 (22) 1st Lt. (23) 01 (24) AC
(Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Designation)
Assigned (25) 8th AF (26) 100th (27) 351st (28) AAF 139
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
Attached for flying (29) 8th AF (30) 100th (31) 351st (32) AAF 139
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
Original rating (33) Pilot (34) 10-9-42 Present rating (35) Pilot (36) 10-17-43 Instrument rating (37) 10-17-43
(Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date)

First Pilot Hours:

(of the time of this accident)

(38) This type B-17 120135 (39) Instrument time last 6 months not applicable
(40) This model B-17G 224100 (41) Instrument time last 30 days not applicable
(42) Last 90 days B-17 197125 (43) Night time last 6 months not applicable
(44) Total All Types 1180100 (45) Night time last 30 days not applicable

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

DAMAGE				(46) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
(46) Aircraft	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	Structural nose cowl & belly damage
(47) Engine(s)	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	Four engine changes-sudden stoppage
(48) Propeller(s)	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	Four propeller changes

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

(50) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident no
(51) Cleared from 139 (52) To 139 (53) Kind of clearance Combat
(54) Pilot's mission Operational mission

(55) Nature of accident landing gear retracted on the landing roll.

(56) Cause of accident The copilot raised the gear instead of the flaps.

(57) No AAF Form #54 is being submitted.

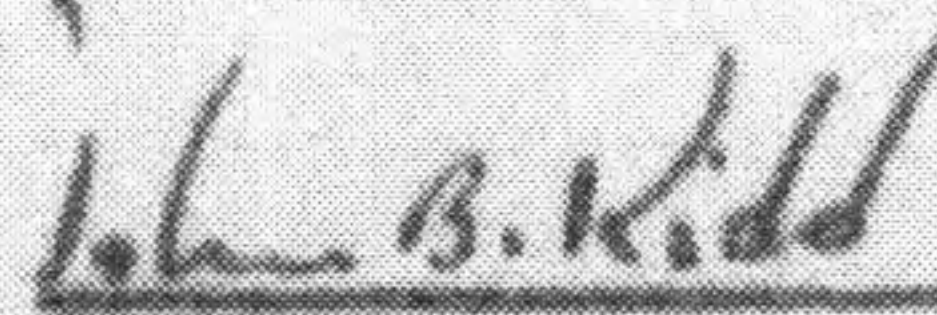
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Incl. #9-

DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

1. The copilot, 2nd Lt. KEITH W. LAMB, mistakenly actuated the landing gear switch instead of the flaps' switch on the landing roll. The aircraft was landing after an eight hour combat mission. The copilot was responsible 100 per cent for the accident.


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


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


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

EXHIBITS INCLUDED:

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

Signature _____
(Investigating Officer)

Date _____

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HEADQUARTERS
ONE HUNDREDTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H), AAF
Office of the Operations Officer
APO #659

28 July 1944

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

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

1. The aircraft landed in good shape but the copilot, in reaching for the flap switch, got the gear switch instead. As a result the gear collapsed. No one was injured.

J. R. Ransom
J. R. RANSOM,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot.

EXHIBIT "A"

A

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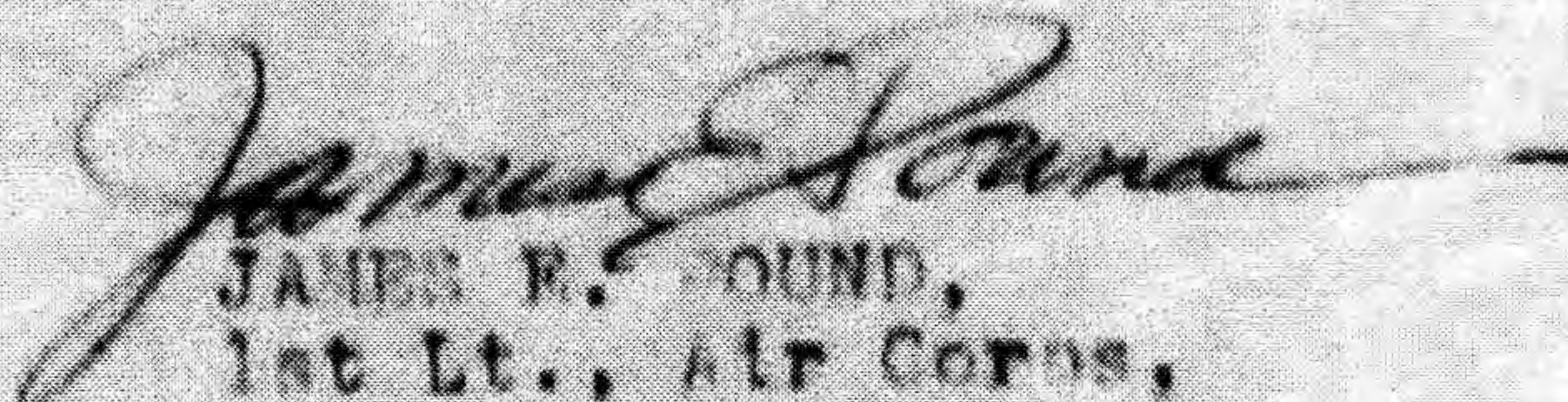
FLYING CONTROL SECTION: STATION 139
APO #559

28 July 1944

SUBJECT: Aircraft Accident Involving B-17G #2102598F of
the 351st Heavy Bombardment Squadron

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

1. Pilot involved: 1st Lt.. James R. Ransom,
O-792742 of the 351st Heavy Bombardment Squadron.
2. Time of accident: 1320 hours 28 July 1944.
3. Synopsis of accident: Lt. Ransom landed on
runway 28 from operational mission. When the aircraft
was about two thirds of the way down the runway both
landing gear folded under the plane. The aircraft then
slided on it's belly and came to rest about 200 yards
further down the runway.
4. Damage to aircraft: All four props ruined; ball
and chin turrets smashed in; trailing edge of flaps slight-
ly damaged. Aircraft did not catch on fire.
5. Injuries: None
6. Action taken: Crash crew and ambulances immediat-
ely dispatched. Changed runways and landed rest of the
mission on runway 35.


JAMES R. RANSOM,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Duty Flying Control
Officer.

STATION NO. 139
1159

28 April 1954

Special Orders)
over.....111)

1. Extracted. (AM 28th Comp Sq BS Sheffield.)
2. Col John F Callahan, 11443317, 456th Sub-Depot (C1 1), is reassigned to the 456th Sub-Depot & reassigned Sq Dy with sta 5-3.
3. Capt Jack E. Carver, 14168047, 350th Bomb Sq, is reassigned to the 350th Bomb Sq, effective this date. (Auth: AR 615-5.)
4. Capt John C. Riddle, 15073033, 350th Bomb Sq, is promoted to the rank of Major, effective this date. (Auth: AR 615-5.)
5. Capt George D. Allen, 03942110, 18th Sta Compl Sq, is appointed Station Officer, in addition to his other duties, vice 1st Lt L. G. L. (741) JOOPER, 0572741, reld.
6. 1st Lt John R. Olson, 0561702, 418th Bomb Sq, is appointed Station Officer, in addition to his other duties, vice 1st Lt Franklin S. Smith, 052013, reld.
7. 1st Lt Franklin S. Smith, 052013, 418th Bomb Sq, is appointed Station Officer.
8. Par 2, SO 72, this Sq is, as Aircraft Accident Committee, is reconstituted.
9. In accordance with Par 1, Part 6, AAF Regulation No. 62-14, as modified by Section 8, VIII AF Memo 62-14, the following named officers are appointed a permanent Aircraft Accident Committee for this station. The first-named officer is designated as Aircraft Accident Officer:

1st COL JOHN B. BIRD	0396626	Hq Det 100th Gp
CAPT SUMNER L. REIDER	0721303	349th Bomb Sq
CAPT MAURICE F. YOUNG	0412721	Hq Det 100th Gp
CAPT ALBERT H. MIKELSEN	0721430	349th Bomb Sq
10. 1st Sgt Paul A. Vrabec, Jr., 15012354, 350th Bomb Sq, WP on TD c/a 1 May 54, for app seven (7) days, exclusive of travel, to AF Sta 139 to Burnessville for the purpose of COCC. CTS.

While at TD Sta 139 will be furnished with not to exceed \$2.00 per day allowance, as outlined in Cir 85 STOUA 13.

For Non Alms at Rest House, 11 22 Nov 54 and 1st Lt Hq STOUA 3 May 54.)

By order of Lt Col V. J. ...

EXHIBIT "C"

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

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

