

Accident No. 44-4-20-521

Date 6-27-44

Checked by [Signature]

Analyzed by [Signature]

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Field by _____

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WAR DEPARTMENT
U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES
REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT 44-9-1-1-7

(1) Place: AAF Station 139 (2) Date: 20 April 1944 (3) Time: 2059
 AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model: B-17F (5) A. F. No.: 42-30487 (6) Station: AAF #139
 Organization: (7) 8th AF (8) 100th Bomb (9) 349th Bomb Squadron (H)
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

PERSONNEL **211**

DUTY	NAME (Last name first)	RATING	SERIAL NO.	RANK	PERSONNEL CLASS	BRANCH	AIR FORCE OR COMMAND	RESULTS TO PERSONNEL	USE OF PARACHUTE
(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)
P	HORNE, RALPH D. JR.	P	0-748415	2nd Lt.	18 01	A.C.	8th AF	none	no
CP	MCCRATH, JOHN M.	P	0-697436	2nd Lt.	18 01	A.C.	8th AF	none	no
N	EVANS, JACK T.	B	0-752743	2nd Lt.	18 01	A.C.	8th AF	none	no
B	CRAVEN, JOHN L.	AG	31092359	T/SGT.	20 20	A.C.	8th AF	none	no
R	WILLEY, LAWRENCE C.	BO	31296559	T/SGT.	20 20	A.C.	8th AF	none	no
E	FOSDICK, ROBERT L.	AE	19057033	T/SGT.	20	A.C.	8th AF	none	no
BT	HUNT, CARLEE G.	ARG	14074645	S/SGT.	20	A.C.	8th AF	none	no
SW	FERINSKY, JOSEPH (NMI)	AG	12208825	S/SGT.	20	A.C.	8th AF	none	no
RW	HALL, SHELLY	AG	34707374	S/SGT.	20 20	A.C.	8th AF	none	no
RG	STARON, JOSEPH G. JR.	AG	19079220	S/SGT.	20	A.C.	8th AF	none	no

PILOT CHARGED WITH ACCIDENT

(20) HORNE RALPH D. JR. (21) 0-748415 (22) 2nd Lt. (23) 18 (24) A.C.
(Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Branch)
 Assigned (25) 8th A.F. (26) 100th (27) 349th Bomb (28) AAF #139
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
 Attached for flying (29) 8th AF (30) 100th (31) 349th Bomb (32) AAF #139
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
 Original rating (33) Pilot (34) 22/6/43 Present rating (35) Pilot (36) 22/6/43 Instrument rating (37) 13/12/43
(Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date)

FIRST PILOT HOURS:

(at the time of this accident)
 (38) This type: B-17 28015 (39) Instrument time last 6 months: 0
 (39) This model: B-17F 22144 (40) Instrument time last 30 days: 0
 (40) Last 90 days: (all types) 109:30 (41) Night time last 6 months: 55:15
 (41) Total: 28015 (42) Night time last 30 days: 0

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE **N7**

DAMAGE

(40) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS

(40) Aircraft: 3
 (47) Engine(s): #14 #24
 (48) Propeller(s): #14 #24
#1 nacelle badly damaged; left wing terminals, left outboard panel, structural members between stations 4 & 6, tail surfaces from station 9 to tail cone damaged. Aircraft transferred to 456 Sub-Depot ASC for disposition.

(50) Weather at the time of accident: Visibility five (5) miles; 4/10 to 6/10 Stratacumulus at 3,000 feet.

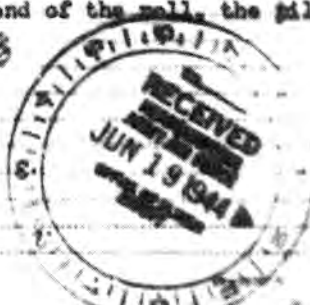
(51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident: No
 (52) Cleared from: AAF #139 (53) To: AAF #139 (54) Kind of clearance: Operational

(45) Pilot's mission: Combat

(56) Nature of accident: The aircraft made a normal landing. Nearing the end of the roll, the pilot applied the brakes and the left landing gear collapsed.

(57) Cause of accident: Structural failure of the left retracting screw.

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DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

At 2058 on 20 April 1944, at Station 139, B-17F 42-30487 crashed on landing. The pilot, Second Lt. RALPH D. HORNE JR., was at the controls and was landing on runway 28 into a light westerly wind.

A normal landing was made and the aircraft was near the end of its roll. Toward the end of the runway the pilot applied brake pressure and the left landing gear screw failed, causing the left wheel to collapse and causing the crash.

It is believed that there is no way of anticipating the failure of mechanical parts in this instance, hence there is no personal responsibility in this case.

(5A) AAF Form 54 is being submitted.

John B. Kidd

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

Summer H. Reeder

SUMNER H. REEDER
Capt., Air Corps,
Member

Maurice F. Youngs

MAURICE F. YOUNGS
Capt., Air Corps,
Member

Exhibits Included:

- "A" - Witness' Statement Of Accident (Pilot)
- "B" - Convening Authority.
- "C" - Photographs.

Signature
(Investigating Officer)

Date

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

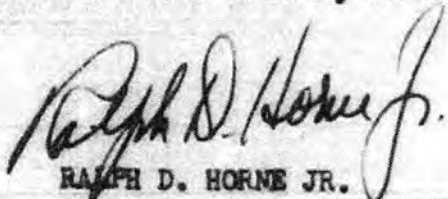
26 April 1944

SUBJECT: Statement Of Pilot, Aircraft Accident Of 20 April 1944.

TO : Aircraft Accident Board, Attention: Lt. Col. JOHN B. KIDD, President.

1. I made a normal approach and landing; everything was fine until just before the end of the landing roll. I had called for "flaps up" and had hit the brakes lightly to slow for the turn off the runway. My copilot had his hand on the tail wheel lock when something snapped and the left wing dropped to the runway.

2. Both the main and tail gears had been checked visually and manually before landing and were "down and locked".



RAMPH D. HORNE JR.
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot

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G-1-2

HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCE STATION NO. 139
TO 139

~~RESTRICTED~~

26 April 1945

Special Orders)
Number.....114)

1. ~~Extracted. (EM 28th Comp Sq 95-Sheffield.)~~
2. Col John F Callahan, 1189017, 460th Sub-Depot (Cl 1), is relieved by Sp Dy with Sta Armament & reassigned Sp Dy with sta S-3.
3. S Sgt Jack E Marshall, 14162077, 350th Bomb Sq, is relieved to the grade of Private, for cause, off this date. (Auth: AR 615-5.)
4. Pvt John C Riffle, 15070055, 350th Bomb Sq, is promoted to the grade of Staff Sergeant (Temp), off this date. (Auth: AR 615-5.)
5. CAPT GEORGE D ALLEN, 0394310, 10th Sta Comd Sq, is appointed Grand Officers' Mess Officer, in addition to his other duties, vice 1ST LT LOUIS (M) MOORE, 0572741, relieved.
6. 1ST LT JOHN R OLSON, 0561793, 418th Bomb Sq, is appointed Consolidated Mess Officer, in addition to his other duties, vice 1ST LT FRANKLIN S SEIBERT, 0562013, relieved.
7. 1ST LT FRANKLIN S SEIBERT, 0562013, 350th Bomb Sq, is appointed Station Mess Officer.

8. Par 2, SO 72, this HQ, as, apptg Aircraft Accident Committee, is rescinded.

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 KIDD | 0590625 | Hq Det 100th Gp |
| CAPT SUMNER H RENDER | 0720003 | 349th Bomb Sq |
| CAPT MAURICE F YOUNG | 0418821 | Hq Det 100th Gp |
| CAPT ALBERT H MIKKELSEN | 0700430 | 349th Bomb Sq |

10. P Sgt Paul A Vrabec, Jr., 1-19364, 350th Bomb Sq, WP on TD o/a 1 May 45, for app seven (7) days, exclusive of travel, for AAF Sta 139 to Bournemouth for the purpose of COCC. CTRS.

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

TONT TDN FD 91-5 P 432-02 A 3435-24. (Auth: Ltr Hq-8th AF, Subj: For Men Alms at Rest Hou., 43 22 Nov 44 and Ltr Hq STOUASA 3 Nov 43.)

By order of Lt Col BERRITT:

SIGNATURE:

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

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FLYING CONTROL SECTION: STATION 13

APO #559

20 May 1944

SUBJECT: Aircraft Accident Concerning B-17 #30487 of the 349th Bombardment Squadron.

TO : Senior Flying Control Officer, 3rd Bombardment Division, APO #559. ATT: A-3

1. Concerning aircraft accident of 2058 hours 20 April 1944, in which our B-17 #30487 of the 349th Squadron, crashed at the up-wind end of Runway 28 while landing from an operational mission. The aircraft, piloted by Lt. Horns, made a normal landing. As the pilot started to make his turn onto the perimeter track, the left oleo strut buckled and the plane went down onto its left wing and belly on the runway.

2. There was no fire and no personnel were injured.

Donald F. Thurlow

DONALD F. THURLOW,
1st Lt., Air Corps
Duty Flying Control Officer.

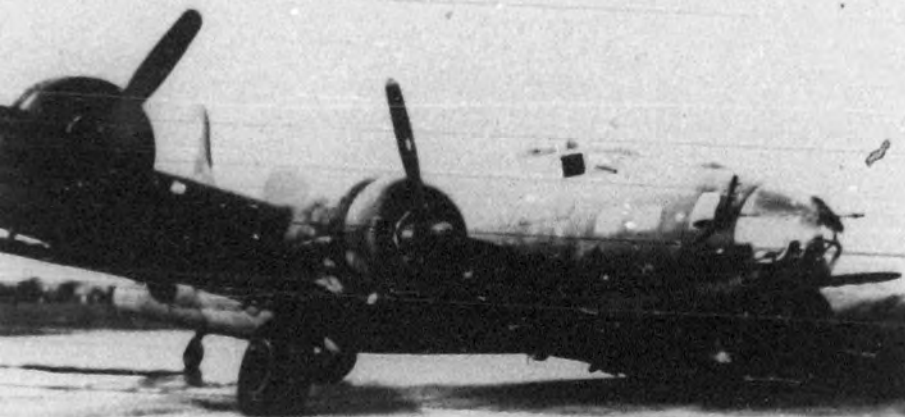
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(BAD-28-8100)(20-4-44)(NO-467-349 TH-BITF)



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