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Accident No. 46

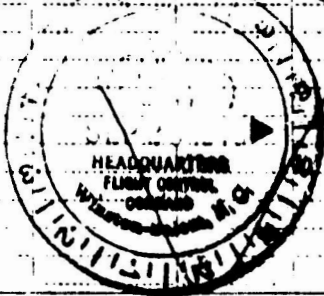
44-9-15-14

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

(1) Place Freeman Army Air Field, Seymour, Ind. (2) Date 15 September 1943 (3) Time 0740Z
 AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model AT-10 BH (5) A. F. No. 42-2255 (6) Station Freeman Field
 Organization: (7) AAFEFTC (8) 28th Wing (9) 466th TFFTS
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

I FT PERSONNEL H I T A E T 5173

INITIAL	NAME (Last name first)	RATING	SERIAL No.	RANK	PERSONNEL CLASS	BRANCH	AIR FORCE OR COMMAND	RESULT TO PERSONNEL	USE OF PARACHUTE
(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)
SV	Sr. Weber, R. E.	4	12080562	A/C	62	A.C.	AAFEFTC	None /	No
SC	Zeigler, J. C.	4	18134577	A/C	62	A.C.	AAFEFTC	None /	No



PILOT CHECKS WITH ACCIDENT

(20) Weber Robert E. (21) 12080562 (22) A/C (23) 62 (24) A.C.
(Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Branch)
 Assigned (25) AAFEFTC (26) 28th Wing (27) 466th TFFTS (28) Freeman Field
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
 Attached for flying (29) AAFEFTC (30) 28th Wing (31) 466th TFFTS (32) Freeman Field
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
 Original rating (33) 4 (34) Present rating (35) (36) Instrument rating (37)
(Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date)

First Pilot Hours:
(at the time of this accident):
 (38) This type... 24:55 (42) Instrument time last 6 months... See note below
 (39) This model... 24:55 (43) Instrument time last 30 days... 1:00
 (40) Last 90 days... 84:05 (44) Night time last 6 months... See note below
 (41) Total... 134:00 (45) Night time last 30 days... 7:45

NOTE: Records prior this station not accomplished. AIRCRAFT DAMAGE to show first pilot in night or inst. time.

DAMAGE (46) Aircraft H (47) Engine(s) 7 (48) Propeller(s) H
 (49) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS See attached list.

(50) Weather at the time of accident Visibility 3 miles, light ground fog, smoke, calm.
 (51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident No.
 (52) Cleared from Freeman Field (53) To Evansville, Terre Haute, Indianapolis (54) Kind of clearance Contact
 (55) Pilot's mission Navigation training flight.
 (56) Nature of accident Landing - wheels retracted shortly after landing.
 (57) Cause of accident Pilot error with possible temporary mechanical failure.
 (58) Has Form 854 been submitted? No.

DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

A/C Weber, R. E., Student Pilot and A/C Zeagler, J. C., Student Co-pilot, were flying night navigation from Freeman Field in AT-10 BH A.F. No. 42-2255. The pilot states that he returned from a cross-country at 0245. On the downwind leg the routine check for landing was made and the wheels were definitely down. Shortly after a normal landing the wheels collapsed.

There was major damage to propellers and lower-engine nacelles. Upon examining the ship, while jacked up, after the accident the wheels were found to work perfectly both retracting and extending. From this information and the pilot and co-pilot's statements the cause of the accident was either pilot error or temporary mechanical failure of the safety switch on the landing gear.

A positive night landing gear check is being used at this station and new safety switches are being installed on all airplanes.

5 Incl.

- Incl # 1 - Pilot Statement
- Incl # 2 - Co-pilot Statement
- Incl # 3 - Damage parts list.
- Incl # 4 - AAF Form # 1
- Incl # 5 - AAF Form # 1A

Signature Robert J. DuChainé
(Investigating Officer)

ROBERT J. DU CHAINÉ

Captain, Air Corps

Aircraft Accident Officer

Date 17 September 1943