

WAR DEPARTMENT
U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES
REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT 4-10-10-17

(1) Place 51005 Grammer Auxiliary Field (2) Date 10 October 1943 (3) Time 1320Z
 AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model AT-19 GL (5) A. F. No. 42-34604 (6) Station Freeman Field
 Organization: (7) AAFPTC (8) 30th Wing (9) 467th TFW
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

PERSONNEL 111 111 111 5173

DUITY	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)
	S. Biller, C.A.	P	0-675535	2nd Lt.	30	A.C.	AAFPTC	None	No
	SD. Donohue, W.R.		13112729	A/C	62	A.C.	AAFPTC	None	No



(20) Biller, Clayton A. (21) 0-675535 (22) 2nd Lt. (23) 16 (24) A.C.
(Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Branch)
 Assigned (25) AAFPTC (26) 30th Wing (27) 467th TFW (28) Freeman Field
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
 Attached for flying (29) AAFPTC (30) 30th Wing (31) 467th TFW (32) Freeman Field
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
 Original rating (33) P (34) 3-20-43 Present rating (35) P (36) 3-20-43 Instrument rating (37) _____
(Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date) (Date)

First Pilot Hours:

(at the time of this accident)

(38) This type..... 240:40 (42) Instrument time last 6 months Not involved.
 (39) This model..... 240:40 (43) Instrument time last 30 days Not involved.
 (40) Last 90 days..... 158:45 (44) Night time last 6 months Not involved.
 (41) Total..... 258:10 (45) Night time last 30 days Not involved.

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

DAMAGE	(49) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
(46) Aircraft..... <u>M 3</u>	<u>See attached list.</u>
(47) Engine(s)..... <u>4 0 4</u>	
(48) Propeller(s)..... <u>M 4 M 4</u>	

(50) Weather at the time of accident Visibility 4 mi., visibility SE 2 mi. Haze and light smoke.
Ceiling unlimited, calm.
 (51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident..... No.
 (52) Cleared from Freeman Field (53) To Local (54) Kind of clearance Contact
 (55) Pilot's mission Local Transition.
 (56) Nature of accident Wheels retracted on landing.
 (57) Cause of accident Temporary mechanical failure.
 (58) Has Form #54 been submitted? No.

DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

Biller, C. A., 2nd Lt., Instructor, and Donohue, W. R., A/C, Student Pilot, were flying local transition in AT-10 GL A.F. No. 42-34604 from Freeman Field on 10 October 1943.

The pilot states that on take-off the landing gear did not retract when the switch was put in the up position. The ship continued in the pattern to make another landing, and, on the pre-landing check, the wheel switch was put in the down position and the wheels were checked visually, by the warning horns and by the indicator on the instrument panel. The pilot states the wheels were in the normal position. The landing was made and after rolling approximately 40 feet the wheels folded up into the nacelles causing major damage to the propellers, lower engine nacelles, and carburetor air scoop assembly.

On inspection of the airplane after the accident there was no evidence of permanent mechanical failure.

It is the opinion of the Aircraft Accident Committee that there was temporary mechanical failure in the landing gear in that the safety switch was found to be excessively dirty which resulted in the gear not retracting on the take-off. It is believed that the wheels did retract partially and then when the switch was put in the down position for the pre-landing check the wheels did not go fully to the down locked position.

In the future the condition of the safety switch on all airplane landing gear assemblies will be inspected more frequently.

- 5 Incl.
- Incl # 1 - Instructor Statement.
- Incl # 2 - Student Statement.
- Incl # 3 - Damaged Parts List.
- Incl # 4 - Form 1.
- Incl # 5 - Form 1A.

Signature Robert J. DuChaine
(Investigating Officer)
ROBERT J. DU CHAINE,
Captain, Air Corps.
Aircraft Accident Officer.

Date 16 October 1943.