

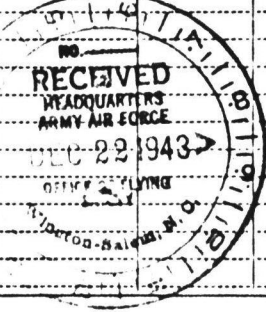
WAR DEPARTMENT  
U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES  
REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

44-12-14-20

(1) Place St. Anne Aux. Field (Freeman Field) (2) Date 15 December 1943 (3) Time 0500Z  
 AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model AT-10 BH (5) A. F. No. 42-2212 (6) Station Freeman Field  
 Organization: (7) AAFETC (8) 30th Wing (9) 1080th TEFTS Squadron  
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

*EIT* PERSONNEL *5175*

DUTY	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)
SD	Sasserson, S. G.	S/P	13088292	A/C	62	A.C.	AAFETC	None	No
S	Greis, R.A.	P	0-212978	2nd Lt.	64	A.C.	AAFETC	None	No



**PILOT CHECKED WITH ACCIDENT**  
 (20) SASSERSON Stanley G. (21) 13088292 (22) A/C (23) 62 (24) A.C.  
(Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Branch)  
 Assigned (25) AAFETC (26) 30th Wing (27) 1080th TEFTS (28) Freeman Field  
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)  
 Attached for flying (29) AAFETC (30) 30th Wing (31) 1080th TEFTS (32) Freeman Field  
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)  
 Original rating (33) P (34) 15 Dec 43 Present rating (35) P (36) 15 Dec 43 Instrument rating (37) None  
(Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date) (Date)

FIRST PILOT HOURS:  
 (at the time of this accident)  
 (38) This type 16125 (39) Instrument time last 6 months Not involved  
 (40) This model 11125 (41) Instrument time last 30 days Not involved  
 (42) Last 90 days 3810 (43) Night time last 6 months 05105  
 (44) Total 96152 (45) Night time last 30 days 00130

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

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

(50) Weather at the time of accident Ceiling unlimited - sky clear, light fog, light smoke. Wind NNW 8  
 (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 night transition.  
 (56) Nature of accident Wheels retracted on landing.  
 (57) Cause of accident Pilot error.  
 (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)

A/C Sasserson, S. G., Student Pilot, and Lt. Greig, R. A., Instructor, were flying local night transition from St. Anne Auxiliary Field in AT-10 BH A.F. No. 42-2212 on 15 December 1943.

Several normal landings had been made, and, on the downwind leg, prior to a landing, the normal pre-landing check was made which included putting the wheels down and the green landing gear position light, showing that the gear was in the down position, was on.

The Instructor checked the wheels visually, and, as near as he could tell, the wheels were fully extended. On the approach, when the engines were throttled back, the light on the landing gear position indicator, showing the gear in the up position, came on. At some previous time the red cap over the light had come off and the Instructor and student did not realize that the white light burning was, in reality, the light on the landing gear position indicator, showing that the wheels were not fully extended. The ship came in and landed, and the wheels folded after a short landing roll.

After the ship was on its belly, both the Instructor and student realized the light that had come on, on the approach, was the light warning them that their wheels were not fully down.

Cause of the accident was pilot error. It is believed that the accident might not have occurred if the red cap had been over the light on the landing gear up position indicator. All pilots and student pilots have been warned to make a more complete and final landing gear check before landing, and, if necessary, to assure themselves that the wheels are down the Control Tower should be buzzed and permission obtained for the landing.

5 Incls:

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

Signature

*Robert J. DuChaine*  
Investigating Officer

ROBERT J. DU CHAINE,

Captain, Air Corps.

Aircraft Accident Officer.

Date 18 December 1943,