

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

44-1-12-31

51071

(1) Place: St. Anne Auxiliary Field, Apt to Freeman Date: 12 January 1944 (2) Time: 0500Z  
 AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model: AT-10 BH (5) A. F. No.: 42-2121 (6) Station: Freeman Field  
 Organization: (7) AAFETTC (8) 30th Wing (9) 467th TETF Squadron  
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

PERSONNEL ACT ACT ACT 3173

NO.	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	George, J. P.	S	15131750	A/C	62	A.C.	AAFETTC	None /	No
S	Rector, R. R.	P	0-288171	1st Lt.	01	A.C.	AAFETTC	None /	No



George James P. (21) 15131750 (22) A/C (23) 62 (24) A.C.  
 Assigned (25) AAFETTC (26) 30th Wing (27) 467th TETF (28) Freeman Field  
 Attached for flying (29) AAFETTC (30) 30th Wing (31) 467th TETF (32) Freeman Field  
 Original rating (33) S (34) --- Present rating (35) S (36) --- Instrument rating (37) ---  
 (Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date)

FIRST PILOT HOURS:  
 (at the time of this accident)  
 (18) This type: 9:55 (42) Instrument time last 6 months: Not involved  
 (19) This model: 9:55 (43) Instrument time last 30 days: Not involved  
 (20) Last 90 days: 51:20 (44) Night time last 6 months: 8:50  
 (41) Total: 88:07 (45) Night time last 30 days: 1:20

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE NF

DAMAGE	(40) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
(46) Aircraft: <u>M 3</u>	
(47) Engine(s): <u>- 1 - 1</u>	See attached list.
(48) Propeller(s): <u>M 4 M 4</u>	

(50) Weather at the time of accident: Visibility 5 miles, high thin broken clouds, light smoke, Wing NW, 9 mph.  
 (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-up landing.  
 (57) Cause of accident: Landing gear was not fully extended and folded up upon contact with the ground.  
 (58) Has Form #54 been submitted? No.

22  
72  
24776

DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

A/C George, J. P., Student Pilot, and 1st Lt. Rector, R.R., Instructor, were flying local night transition from St. Anne Auxiliary Field on 12 January 1944 in AT-10 BH A.F. No. 42-2121.

Approximately six (6) landings were shot at St. Annes and, on the downwind leg, the pre-landing check for the seventh (7th) landing was made and the wheels were checked down visually by both the pilot and the co-pilot.

The landing gear position light, however, was not checked. On the approach for the landing the wheels were again checked visually and the ship made a normal landing. After rolling a slight distance the Instructor noticed that the green landing gear position light indicator was not burning and immediately after noticing this the wheels collapsed, allowing the airplane to settle on its belly, causing major damage to the propellers and lower engine nacelles.

After the accident the airplane was inspected and it was found that the landing gear motor fuse was burned out.

It is the opinion of the Aircraft Accident Committee that the landing gear fuse burned out while the wheels were being extended stopping the landing gear before the wheels were fully extended and in the locked position. From the cockpit, on a visual inspection, there is no noticeable difference in the position of the wheels whether they are in the fully down position or about one inch from being fully extended.

Neither of the occupants of the aircraft remember checking the landing gear position light indicator for that particular landing but had been checking it in all previous landings. It is recommended that all personnel will, at all times, make use of all means for checking the landing gear in the down position. This recommendation will be brought to the attention of all pilots at this station.

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 15 January 1944