

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

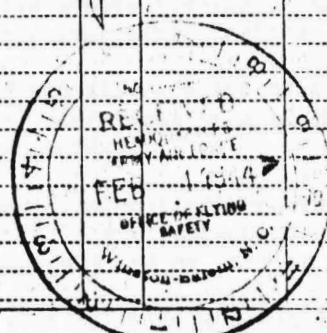
44-1-28-1  
1

51-079

(1) Place St. Ann's Fld. Auxiliary to Freeman Fld. (2) Date 28 January 1944 (3) Time 0515Z  
 AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model AT-10-BH 291 (5) A. F. No. 41-26991 (6) Station Freeman Field  
 Organization: (7) AAFEFTC (8) 30th Wing (9) 466th TFFT Squadron  
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

EFT PERSONNEL AFT AFT 5173

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)
SP	Bertich, I. A.	<u>EFT</u>	36725474	A/S	<u>78 62</u>	A.C.	AAFEFTC	Major <u>3</u>	No
SC	Waldman, H. M.	<u>EFT</u>	11120445	A/C	<u>62 62</u>	A.C.	AAFEFTC	Major <u>3</u>	No



REPORT CHECKS WITH ACCIDENT

(20) Bertich I. A. (21) 36725474 (22) A/S (23) 78 (24) A.C.  
 (Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Branch)  
 Assigned (25) AAFEFTC (26) 30th Wing (27) 466th TFFT Squadron (28) Freeman Field  
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)  
 Attached for flying (29) AAFEFTC (30) 30th Wing (31) 466th TFFT Squadron (32) Freeman Field  
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)  
 Original rating (33) EFT (34) None Present rating (35) EFT (36) None Instrument rating (37) None  
 (Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date)

FIRST PILOT HOURS:

(at the time of this accident)

(1) This type..... 40:55 (2) Instrument time last 6 months..... Not Involved  
 (3) This model..... 40:55 (4) Instrument time last 30 days..... Not Involved  
 (5) Last 90 days..... 55:55 (6) Night time last 6 months..... 27:45  
 (7) Total..... 122:50 (8) Night time last 30 days..... 18:40

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

(49) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS

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

(50) Weather at the time of accident Visibility 4 miles with light smoke. Ceiling E. 2000 overcast.  
Wind SSE. 7 mph. 38

(51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident No.  
 (52) Cleared from Freeman Field (53) To Local 5173 (54) Kind of clearance Contact 1

(55) Pilot's mission Local night transition. 71

(56) Nature of accident Collision with object other than aircraft on takeoff, i.e., ground.

(57) Cause of accident Engine failure due to icing conditions or slight mechanical defect.

(58) Has Form #56 been submitted? No.

07-53

4/0

## DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

A/S Bertich, L. A., Student Pilot and A/C Waldman, M. M., Student Co-pilot, were flying local night transition from St. Anne Field, Auxiliary Field to Fraeman Field on 28 January 1944 in AT-10 A.F. No. 41-26991.

A/S Bertich was taking off; was approximately ten (10) feet off the ground when the left engine failed causing the ship to go into a violent bank to the left and strike the ground on one wing tip. The ship cartwheeled and came to a rest on its back a complete wreck.

Due to the fact that both the pilot and co-pilot suffered concussion, neither can remember fully the events leading up to the accident or the actual cause. The co-pilot, from his statement, insists, however, that engine failure occurred.

It is the opinion of the Aircraft Accident Committee that engine failure due possibly to icing conditions or a slight mechanical defect in the engine was the cause of the accident.

A/S Bertich had been in an accident previous to the above mentioned accident but was cleared by the Flight Surgeon for flying. The Flight Surgeon states that the previous accident had no bearing on the above mentioned accident.

All pilots at this station will be again instructed on icing conditions and the precautionary measures to be taken. Maintenance and inspection will be more rigidly supervised at this station.

## 5 Incls:

- #1 - Pilot Statement.
- #2 - Director of Training Statement.
- #3 - Examining Physician Statement.
- #4 - Tower Operator Statement.
- #5 - Eye Witness Statements (5).
- #6 - Aircraft Damage Report.
- #7 - Form 1.
- #8 - Form 1A.
- #9 - Photographs (3).

SIGNATURE

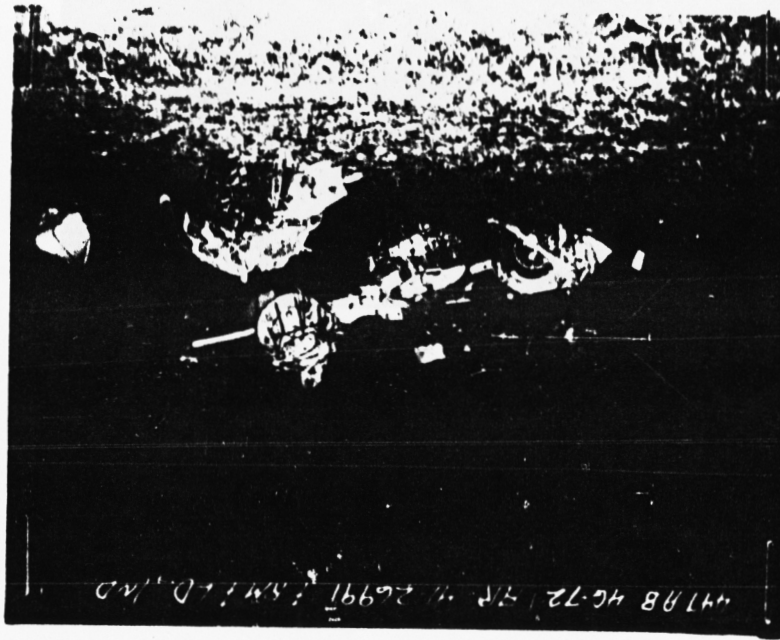
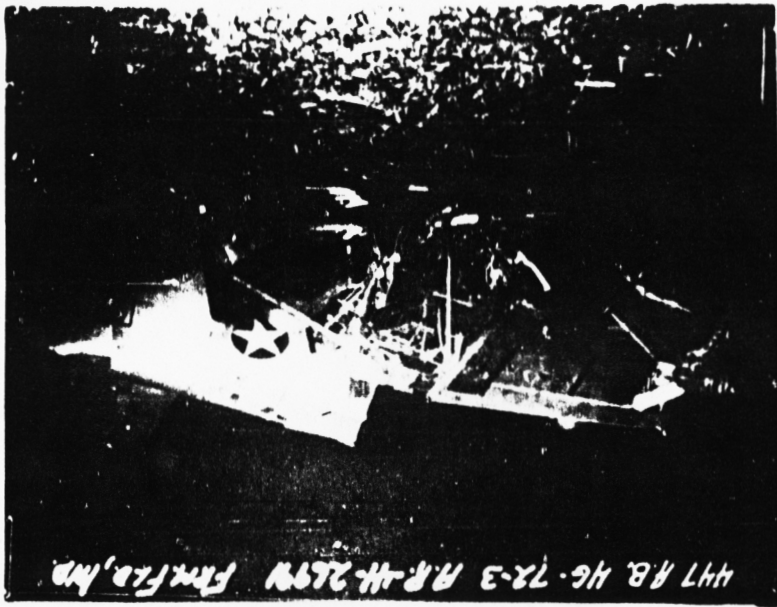
*Robert J. DuChaine*  
(Investigating Officer)

ROBERT J. DU CHAINE

Captain, Air Corps

Aircraft Accident Officer

1 February 1944

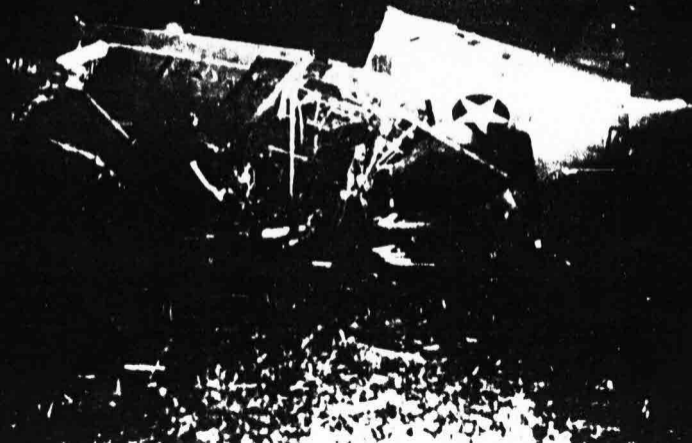




447 AB 4G-72 9R W 26991 5M 10. 1ND



447 A.B. 46-72-3 A.R.-44-269W From F.L.D., MD.



447 AB. 4G 72-2 .9R4126791 FROM F.I.D. INC

