

Accident No.

44-5-17-515

Date

Checked by

JM 6-27-44

Analyzed by

GLB

Copied for Wright
Field by

Notes

1225:9-43

RESTRICTED

AAF STATION 342
WAR DEPARTMENT

ACCIDENT No. 136

U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES

REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

(1) Place 1 mile West of Dolgelley (2) Date 17 May 1944 (3) Time 16:38
 AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model Stinson L-5-VN¹⁰⁰ (5) A. F. No. 42-99103 (6) Station Cranage
 Organization: (7) 9th A.A.F. (8) 19th TAC (9) 14th Liaison Sqn.
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

PERSONNEL LIA

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)
01 P	Reiter, John (NMI)	P	0-693236	2nd Lt.	180	A.C.	9th	No Inj.	----
600	Fuller, Bruce J.	O	0-1320518	2nd Lt.	204	A.C.	9th	No Inj.	----



PILOTS INVOLVED WITH ACCIDENT

(20) Reiter, John (NMI) (21) 0-693236 (22) 2nd Lt. (23) 18 (24) A.C.
 (Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Branch)
 Assigned (25) 9th A.F. (26) 19th TAC (27) 14th Liaison (28) Cranage
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
 Attached for flying (29) ----- (30) ----- (31) ----- (32) -----
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
 Original rating (33) P (34) 1 Oct 43 Present rating (35) P (36) 1 Oct 43 Instrument rating (37) -----
 (Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date) (Date)

FIRST PILOT HOURS:

(at the time of this accident)

(38) This type 25:00 (42) Instrument time last 6 months -----
 (39) This model 25:00 (43) Instrument time last 30 days -----
 (40) Last 90 days 25:00 (44) Night time last 6 months 5:00
 (41) Total 375:00 (45) Night time last 30 days 0:00

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

DAMAGE	(49) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
(46) Aircraft <u>0</u> <u>5</u>	Propeller, lower engine cowl torn, fuselage bent, left wing struts crumpled, left wing crumpled, rudder crumpled. No other damaged parts.
(47) Engine(s) <u>M</u> <u>5</u>	
(48) Propeller(s) <u>M</u> <u>5</u>	

(50) Weather at the time of accident Broken clouds 1,000'---1,500' Visibility 4 to 6 miles, except 2 to 3 miles in occasional showers.

(51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident No
 (52) Cleared from Grove (53) To Cranage (54) Kind of clearance Contact
 (55) Pilot's mission Cross country.

(56) Nature of accident Attempted forced landing in soft ground---plane nosed over.

(57) Cause of accident Lost---fuel shortage.

(58) U/R not submitted

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DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

INVESTIGATING OFFICER'S STATEMENT

On 17 May 1944 at approximately 1638 hours, Lt. Reiter, while engaged on a cross country flight, became lost and running low on fuel (approximately five gallons remained in tank), attempted a forced landing in a cultivated field. The wheels became mired in the soft ground, causing the plane to nose over.

Lt. Reiter, due to poor navigation, became hopelessly lost and due to the locality in which he found himself, became overanxious. There are very few air-dromes south and east from the point he attempted his landing; however, R.A.F., Ilandbedr and R.A.F., Towyn were only 10 or 12 miles distant to the northwest and southwest.

Had Lt. Reiter been properly instructed in British maps and navigation procedure, this accident would have been avoided. Also, had he carried out precautionary emergency landing procedure and had chosen a more suitable landing field, he would have prevented his aircraft from nosing over.

GROUP II ACCIDENT.

Pilot Error.....100%
Major Cause ----- Inexperience
Minor Cause ----- Poor Judgement

It is recommended that pilots of the liaison squadrons be given a more thorough course on British maps and map reading.

Signature

Ervin L. Miller
(Investigating Officer)

ERVIN L. MILLER,
Major, Air Corps,
Investigating Officer.

Date 22 May 1944.

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PILOT'S STATEMENT

On a cross-country flight from Grove to Cramage via Kidderminster, on May 17, 1944, running low on gas after flying around numerous shoers I picked a field and set down. The wheels upon contacting soft soil dug in, and the ship nosed over. This happened at approximately 1638 hours.

John Reiter
2nd Lt. A.C.
JOHN REITER,
2nd Lt., Air Corps.

Incl. 2

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A CERTIFICATE.

May 18th 1944.

I hereby certify that U.S.A.A.F. Aeroplane type L-5 Serial Number 4299103 did at approx. 1638 on 17 May 1944 make a forced landing in my field located on the south side and adjoining the Dolgelley - Llanelltyd road, 1 mile west of Dolgelley, damaging the crop of young oats to the extent of Two pounds (L2)

I further certify that no other property was damaged in the above stated accident.

P.H. Enthoven
P.H.
E.P. Enthoven, Colonel (Retired).
Dolrhyd, Nr. Dolgelley.

A CERTIFICATE.

I hereby certify that on the 17th May, 1944 I was flying U.S.A.A.F. Type L-5 Serial Number 4299103. and did have a forced landing in a field belonging to Col. Enthoven, located on the south side and adjoining the Dolgelley - Llanelltyd road, 1 mile west of Dolgelley, damaging a crop of young oats to the extent of an estimated 20/- maximum.

I certify that no other property was damaged in the above stated accident.

John Reiter 2nd Lt. A.C.
John (NMI) Reiter.
2nd Lt. A.C.

Incl. 3

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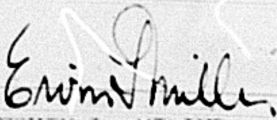
OBSERVATIONS OF OFFICER FROM CRANAGE

Aircraft landed in grass field. After rolling approximately 120 feet, right wheel sank into boggy spot causing partial ground-loop. Pilot corrected with brake.

Aircraft rolled on to cultivated ground and pilot attempted controlled ground loop to avoid fence. After rolling approximately 160 feet, aircraft nosed up until tips of propeller hit. About 20 feet farther, one propeller blade dug in and aircraft went over on its back approximately 250 feet from point of first contact with ground.

/s/ Ancel G. Taflinger,
2nd Lt., A.C.

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:


ERVIN L. MILLER,
Major, Air Corps,
Operations Officer.

Incl. 4

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HEADQUARTERS
AAF STATION 342
APO 639

GA-EA-5

22 May 1944.

360.33

SUBJECT: Accident Report.

TO : Commanding General, VIII Air Force Composite Command, APO
639, U.S. Army.

360.33

Submitted herewith is Accident Report re: John Reiter, 2nd Lt.,
Air Corps.

For the Commanding Officer:



Herman L. Englen
HERMAN L. ENGLEN,
Lt. Col., Air Corps,
Adjutant.



- Incl 1: AAF Form 14 (in quadruplicate)
- Incl 2: Pilot's Statement (in quadruplicate)
- Incl 3: Certificates (in quadruplicate)
- Incl 4: Observations of Officer from Grange (in quadruplicate)
- Incl 5: Photographs (4 views) (in quadruplicate)

360.33

1st Ind.

E-B-22

HQ VIII AIR FORCE COMP COMD, AAF STA 342, APO 639. 26 MAY 1944

To: Commanding General, Eighth Air Force

MAY 26 1944

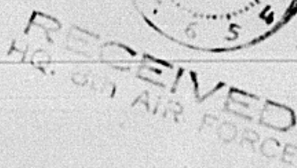
For the Commanding General:



J. H. Hyland
J. H. HYLAND,
Lt., Col., A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

5 Incls:

n/c (1 cy of ea v/d)



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(GAD-74-3-342)(MAY 17, 1944)(A/C 42-99103-STINSON)



(GAD-74-3-342)(MAY 17, 1944)(A/C 42-99103-STINSON)





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(GAD-74-3-342)(MAY 17, 1944)(A/C 42-99103-STINSON)

