

RESTRICTED
WAR DEPARTMENT

ACCIDENT No.

U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES
REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

44-6-16-523

(1) Place AAF Station No. 106 (2) Date 16 June, 1944 (3) Time 1546 4
 AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model B-17-D 04D (5) A. P. No. 12-97139 (6) Station 106
 Organisation: (7) 8th Air Force (8) 38th Bomb (H) (9) 546 Bomb (H)
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

PERSONNEL

Duty (10)	NAME (Last name first) (11)	RATING (12)	SERIAL NO. (13)	RANK (14)	PERSONNEL CLASS (15)	BRANCH (16)	AIR FORCE OR COMMAND (17)	RESULTS TO PERSONNEL (18)	USE OF PARACHUTE (19)
P	Ungerman, Kenneth A.	P	0-812331	2nd Lt.	1B O1	AC	8thAF	None /	None
CP	Wicker, Charles W.	CP	0-819234	2nd Lt.	1B O1	AC	8thAF	None /	None
M	Williams, Evan L.	M	0-708287	2nd Lt.	1B O1	AO	8thAF	None /	None
B	Dugger, John J.	B	0-683126	2nd Lt.	1B O1	AC	8thAF	None /	None
R	Billey, Robert R.	R	19126547	S/Sgt.	3B 20	AC	8thAF	None /	None
TT	Schlisling, Roger E.	AAE	3680389	S/Sgt.	3B 20	AC	8thAF	None /	None
BT	Vallone, Frank P.	AAE	3268232	Sgt.	3B 20	AC	8thAF	None /	None
AG	Stephens, Herbert A.	AAQ	3295880	Sgt.	3B 20	AC	8thAF	None /	None
AG	Jacobs, Dallas A.	AAQ	35790873	Sgt.	3B 20	AC	8thAF	None /	None

PILOT CHARGED WITH ACCIDENT

(20) Ungerman, Kenneth A. (21) 0-812331 (22) 2nd Lt. (23) 1B (24) AC
 (Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Branch)
 Assigned (25) 8th Air Force (26) 38th Bomb (H) (27) 546 Bomb (H) (28) 106
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
 Attached for flying (29) _____ (30) _____ (31) _____ (32) L354
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
 Original rating (33) Pilot (34) 25-9-43 Present rating (35) Pilot (36) 25-9-43 Instrument rating (37) 2-12-43
 (Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date) (Date) (Date)

FIRST PILOT HOURS:

(at the time of this accident)

(38) This type	227:30	(42) Instrument time last 6 months	35:20
(39) This model	125:00	(43) Instrument time last 30 days	2:00
(40) Last 90 days	139:15	(44) Night time last 6 months	36:15
(41) Total	227:30	(45) Night time last 30 days	None

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

NE COMB 7-77

DAMAGE	(46) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
(46) Aircraft	Underside of left inboard wing panel damaged, fuselage damaged beyond repair from station 64 back.
(47) Engine(s)	
(48) Propeller(s)	

(50) Weather at the time of accident 9/10th clouds, bases at 2,000 feet. Visibility seven miles, wind Northwest at fourteen miles per hour.

(51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident No.
 (52) Cleared from Station 106 (53) To Combat (54) Kind of clearance Operational

(55) Pilot's mission Operational

(56) Nature of accident Take off accident

(57) Cause of accident Pilot lost control of aircraft while taking off.

(58) Has Form 51 been submitted? No.



DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

It is the opinion of this board, the accident is due to one hundred percent pilot error.

The aircraft was inspected by this station engineering department and no mechanical failures were found.

From all indications the tail wheel was not in the locked position during attempted take-off.

Photos have been forwarded.

- 1. A wooden structure
- 2. A wooden structure
- 3. A wooden structure
- 4. A wooden structure
- 5. A wooden structure
- 6. A wooden structure
- 7. A wooden structure
- 8. A wooden structure
- 9. A wooden structure
- 10. A wooden structure
- 11. A wooden structure
- 12. A wooden structure
- 13. A wooden structure
- 14. A wooden structure
- 15. A wooden structure
- 16. A wooden structure
- 17. A wooden structure
- 18. A wooden structure
- 19. A wooden structure
- 20. A wooden structure

Signature

George H. Koshing
(Investigating Officer)

George H. Koshing, Jr., Major, AG.

Charles W. Bishop

Charles W. Bishop, 1st Lt., AG.

Lloyd E. Halalay

Lloyd E. Halalay, 1st Lt., AG.

25 June, 1944

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346TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
AAF STATION NO. 106

16 June 1944.

SUBJECT: Accident Report on A/C No. 97139.

TO : Group Operations, 384th Bomb Gp (H), AAF Station No. 106.

I pulled into take-off position, checked controls, locked tail wheel and completed, before take-off, check. I held brakes and ran throttles up to thirty inches, after which I released the brakes and started roll. Upon reaching an airspeed of 60 m.p.h. without the aircraft showing any unusual characteristics, it suddenly veered to the right. I chopped left throttles, applied full left rudder and touched the left brake a couple of times, to no avail. Ship reeled off runway and I attempted to brake. Even with the brakes applied, the aircraft had a tendency to veer to the right. Being on a collision course with other B-17s parked in dispersals, I called for tail wheel 'unlocked' and ground looped to the right, as I was unable to ground loop to the left. Crew members in waist mentioned hearing a loud snap prior to ship leaving runway. I do not know what caused aircraft to re-act in this manner.

Kenneth A. Ungerman

KENNETH A. UNGERMAN,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot.

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FIVE HUNDRED FORTY SIXTH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
AAF STATION NO. 106

16 June 1944

1. Lt. Ungerman has flown 17 combat missions in 26 days.
During the take-off on today's mission his airplane ground looped.
Operational fatigue, due to excessive combat flying, has im-
paired this pilot's flying efficiency and undoubtedly contributed
to the accident on this date.

Samson Fisher

SAMSON (IMI) FISHER,
Capt., Medical Corps,
Squadron Surgeon.

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HEADQUARTERS
AAF STATION No. 106
Office of the Flying Control Officer

R-A-1

28 June, 1944.

SUBJECT: Accident- B-17, No. 7139.

TO : COMMANDING OFFICER, 384th Bombardment Group (H), AAF Station No.
106, APO 557, U. S. Army.

1. On or about 1530 hrs 16 June, 1944, aircraft 7139 (Operational) taking off on runway 30 east to west ran off the runway ground looped, and came to a stop against a concrete gun pit near dispersal 12.

2. A British Civilian truck working on the Airfield in vicinity of dispersal 12 was caught between aircraft 7139, and gun pit.

3. Aircraft 7139 was 23rd aircraft to take-off.

Joseph K. Haley, Jr.
JOSEPH K. HALEY, JR.,
Captain, Air Corps,
S. F. C. O.

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