

RESTRICTED
WAR DEPARTMENT

ACCIDENT No. 104

U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES
REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

Two planes
45-9-27-510

01-001
(1) Place AAF Station 106 (2) Date 27 September, 1944 (3) Time 0530
AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model B-17G *040* (5) A. F. No. 44-6111 (6) Station 106
Organization: (7) 8th Air Force (8) 38th Bomb (H) (9) 5th Bomb (H)
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)
PERSONNEL *BH* *Z354*

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)
P	Springsted, Donald G.	P	0-695175	2nd Lt.	18	AC	8th AF	None	None
CP	Frisman, Peter T.	P	0-819786	2nd Lt.	18	AC	8th AF	None	None
N	Jacobs, Edward G.	N	0-719081	2nd Lt.	18	AC	8th AF	None	None
T	Curtin, Paul R.		32929865	Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	None
RO	Meyers, Melvin J.		36711997	S/Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	None
TT	Thompson, Arthur E.		11101020	T/Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	None
BT	Watson, Paul L.		37616275	Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	None
TG	Macuch, Albert P.		12138839	Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	None
FG	Stephenson, Hilton J.		38511140	Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	None

acc #2
(20) Springsted, Donald G. (21) 0-695175 (22) 2nd Lt. (23) 18 (24) AC
(Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Branch)
Assigned (25) 8th Air Force (26) 38th Bomb (H) (27) 5th Bomb (H) (28) 106
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
Attached for flying (29) 8th Air Force (30) 38th Bomb (H) (31) 5th Bomb (H) (32) 106
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
Original rating (33) Pilot (34) 3-11-43 Present rating (35) Pilot (36) 3-11-43 Instrument rating (37) None (38) None
(Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date) (Date) (Date)

FIRST PILOT HOURS:
(at the time of this accident)

(39) This type	<u>1:30</u>	(42) Instrument time last 6 months	<u>None</u>
(40) This model	<u>1:30</u>	(43) Instrument time last 30 days	<u>1:00</u>
(41) Last 90 days	<u>1:30</u>	(44) Night time last 6 months	<u>None</u>
(41) Total	<u>1:30</u>	(45) Night time last 30 days	<u>None</u>

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE *AIF* *10/25/44*

DAMAGE	(46) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
(46) Aircraft	<u>Left outer wing panel, (Repaired and replaced at this station).</u>
(47) Engine(s)	
(48) Propeller(s)	

(50) Weather at the time of accident No restrictions in visibility due to weather. Accident occurred in darkness, prior to sun-up.
(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 Combat
(56) Nature of accident Taxi accident.



Boyd

REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

45-9-27-510

(1) Place AAF Station 106 (2) Date 27 September, 1944 (3) Time 0530
 AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model B-17G (5) A. F. No. 44-6141 (6) Station 106
 Organisation: (7) 8th Air Force (8) 38th Bomb (H) (9) 5th Bomb (H)
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

PERSONNEL *BH* *Z354*

DOVT (10)	NAME (Last name first) (11)	RATING (12)	SERIAL No. (13)	RANK (14)	PERSONNEL CLASS (15)	BRANCH (16)	AIR FORCE OR COMMAND (17)	RESULT TO PERSONNEL (18)	USE OF PARACHUTE (19)
	P. Springsted, Donald G.	P	0-695175	2nd Lt.	18	AC	8th AF	None	None
	CP Freiman, Peter T.	P	0-819786	2nd Lt.	18	AC	8th AF	None	None
	N. Jacobs, Edward G.	N	0-719081	2nd Lt.	18	AC	8th AF	None	None
	T. Curtin, Paul R.		32929865	Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	None
	RO Meyers, Melvin J.		36711997	S/Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	None
	TT Thompson, Arthur E.		11101020	T/Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	None
	BT Watson, Paul L.		37616275	Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	None
	TG Macuch, Albert P.		12138839	Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	None
	FG Stephenson, Hilton J.		38511140	Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	None

acc #2

(20) Springsted, Donald G. (21) 0-695175 (22) 2nd Lt. (23) 18 (24) AC
 (Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Branch)
 Assigned (25) 8th Air Force (26) 38th Bomb (H) (27) 5th Bomb (H) (28) 106
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
 Attached for flying (29) 8th Air Force (30) 38th Bomb (H) (31) 5th Bomb (H) (32) 106
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
 Original rating (33) Pilot (34) 3-11-43 Present rating (35) Pilot (36) 3-11-43 Instrument rating (37) None
 (Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date) (Date) (Date)



FINER PILOT HOURS:
 (at the time of this accident)

(38) This type	<u>1:30</u>	(42) Instrument time last 6 months	<u>None</u>
(39) This model	<u>1:30</u>	(43) Instrument time last 30 days	<u>1:00</u>
(40) Last 90 days	<u>1:30</u>	(44) Night time last 6 months	<u>None</u>
(41) Total	<u>3:30</u>	(45) Night time last 30 days	<u>None</u>

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

DAMAGE	(46) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
(46) Aircraft	<u>Left outer wing panel, (Repaired and replaced at this station).</u>
(47) Engine(s)	
(48) Propeller(s)	

(49) Weather at the time of accident No restrictions in visibility due to weather. Accident occurred in darkness, prior to sun-up.

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

(54) Pilot's mission Combat *Z354*

(55) Nature of accident Taxi accident.

(56) Cause of accident Pilot of aircraft 44-6080 taxied out on perimeter track, ninety (90) degrees to take-off runway, while pilot of aircraft 44-6141 taxied to aft end of runway, stopped then taxied to extreme left side of runway, and proceeded to take-off position. On passing perimeter track the left wing of aircraft 44-6141 collided with nose section of aircraft 44-6080.

(57) Has form 54 been submitted? No.

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Incl. #6-

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FIVE HUNDRED FORTY SEVENTH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
ARMY AIR FORCES
Office of the Operations Officer.

27 September 1944

SUBJECT: Pilot's Statement on Aircraft Accident.

TO : Group Operations Officer.

I Started Engines at 0515.

I then taxied out of dispersal area #36, turned right on the perimeter track and taxied to runway #24 for take-off.

I was parked on the perimeter track waiting to follow Ship #141 to take-off position. Ship #141 was coming from dispersal area #8.

When Ship #141 started out on the runway the Co-Pilot 2nd Lt. W. D. Bayne blinked our right landing light so that he could see the position of my airplane #080. All of my position lights were on.

He pulled out on the North end of runway #24 and stopped about two minutes. When he again started taxiing he was at the extreme left of the runway. We started to blink both landing lights when he started taxiing down the runway but he didn't stop or turn. He had his left landing light on while he was taxiing.

The left wing tip of his Airplane struck the nose of my Airplane at 05:32. The tip of the wing struck at a point in the nose where the driftmeter is installed. It followed around the nose breaking out the plexiglass and ripping the chin turret off. It was hanging from the nose of the plane by the wires.

It swung his plane around so that he was facing me. My No 1 engine and his No 1 engine were approximately two feet apart when the Plane stopped rolling.

We cut our engines when he struck the Ship.

Bert O. Brown Jr.
BERT O. BROWN, JR.
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot.

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WAR DEPARTMENT
U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES

Accident No. 2 planes

REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT 43-9-27-57.0

(1) Place AAF Station 106 (2) Date 17 September, 1944 (3) Time 0530
 AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model B-17G DAD (5) A. F. No. 44-6080 (6) Station 106
 Organisation: (7) 8th Air Force (8) 38th Bomb (H) (9) 547 Bomb (H)
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) Z 354

DOTY (10)	NAME (Last name first) (11)	RATING (12)	SERIAL NO. (13)	RANK (14)	PERSONNEL CLASS (15)	BRANCH (16)	AIR FORCE OR COMMAND (17)	RESULT TO PERSONNEL (18)	USE OF PARACHUTE (19)
P	Brown, Bert O., Jr.	P	0-763929	1st Lt.	18	AC	8th AF	None	No
CP	Bayne, William D.	P	0-767730	2nd Lt.	18	AC	8th AF	None	No
N	Scherer, Raymond J.	N	0-720015	2nd Lt.	18	AC	8th AF	None	No
T	Franklin, Walter D.		18105538	S/Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	Minor	No
E	Ragan, Richard G.		32884682	S/Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	No
R	Ondrusak, Marvin J.		38453152	Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	No
BT	Jones, William J.		35709393	S/Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	No
FG	Chalkus, Joseph W.		36692970	S/Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	No
TG	Palmer, Raymond G.		35235645	S/Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	No

acc # 1
 (20) Brown, Bert O., Jr. (21) 0-763929 (22) 1st Lt. (23) 18 (24) AC
 (Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Branch)
 Assigned (25) 8th Air Force (26) 38th Bomb (H) (27) 547 Bomb (H) (28) 38 (29) AC
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Rating) (Branch)
 Attached for flying (30) 8th Air Force (31) 38th Bomb (H) (32) 547 Bomb (H) (33) 38 (34) AC
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Rating) (Branch)
 Original rating (35) Pilot (36) 7-1-44 Present rating (37) Pilot (38) 27-3-44 Instrument rating (39) 6-3-44
 (Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date) (Date) (Date)

FIRST PILOT HOURS:
 (at the time of this accident)

(40) This type	364:45	(42) Instrument time last 6 months	28:30
(41) This model	234:50	(43) Instrument time last 30 days	4:00
(44) Last 90 days	107:35	(44) Night time last 6 months	7:50
(41) Total	364:45	(45) Night time last 30 days	3:00

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

DAMAGE	(49) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
(46) Aircraft <u>Salvaged</u>	Complete nose section torn away from bulkhead No. 2 forward. Rinkle in fuselage behind No. 3 bulkhead.
(47) Engine(s)	
(48) Propeller(s)	

(50) Weather at the time of accident No restriction in visibility due to weather. Accident occurred in darkness, prior to sun-up.
 (51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident No.
 (52) Cleared from AAF Station 106 (53) To Combat (54) Kind of clearance Operational
 (55) Pilot's mission Combat
 (56) Nature of accident Taxi accident.

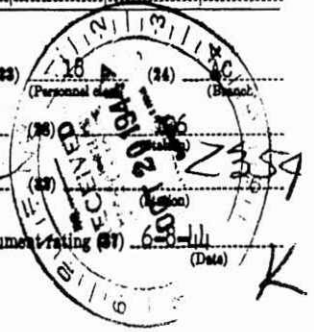
(57) Cause of accident Pilot of aircraft 44-6080 taxied out on perimeter track, ninety (90) degrees to take-off runway, while pilot of aircraft 44-6141 taxied to aft end of runway, stopped

REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT 43-9-27-570

(1) Place AAF Station 106 (2) Date 27 September, 1944 (3) Time 0530
 AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model B-17G DAD (5) A. F. No. 44-6080 (6) Station 106
 Organisation: (7) 8th Air Force (8) 38th Bomb (H) (9) 517 Bomb (H)
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) Z 354
 PERSONNEL BH

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)
P.	Brown, Bert O., Jr.	P.	0-763929	1st Lt.	18	AC	8th AF	None	No.
CP	Bayne, William D.	P.	0-767730	2nd Lt.	18	AC	8th AF	None	No.
N.	Scherer, Raymond J.	N	0-720015	2nd Lt.	18	AC	8th AF	None	No.
T.	Franklin, Walter D.		18105538	S/Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	Minor	No.
E.	Ragan, Richard G.		32884682	S/Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	No.
R.	Ondrusek, Marvin J.		38453152	Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	No.
BT	Jones, William J.		35709393	S/Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	No.
EG	Chalkus, Joseph W.		36692970	S/Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	No.
TG	Palmer, Raymond G.		35235645	S/Sgt.	38	AC	8th AF	None	No.

acc #1
 (20) Brown, Bert O., Jr. (21) 0-763929 (22) 1st Lt. (23) 18 (24) AC
 (Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Branch)
 Assigned (25) 8th Air Force (26) 38th Bomb (H) (27) 517 Bomb (H) (28) Z 354
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Squadron)
 Attached for flying (29) _____ (30) _____ (31) _____ (32) _____
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Squadron)
 Original rating (33) Pilot (34) 7-1-44 Present rating (35) Pilot (36) 27-1-44 Instrument rating (37) 6-0-44
 (Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date) (Date) (Date)



FIRST PILOT HOURS:
 (at the time of this accident)
 (38) This type 364:45 (42) Instrument time last 6 months 28:30
 (39) This model 234:50 (43) Instrument time last 30 days 4:00
 (40) Last 90 days 107:35 (44) Night time last 6 months 7:50
 (41) Total 364:45 (45) Night time last 30 days 3:00

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

DAMAGE	(46) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
(46) Aircraft <u>Salvaged</u>	Complete nose section torn away from bulkhead No. 2
(47) Engine(s)	forward. Rinkle in fuselage behind No. 3 bulkhead.
(48) Propeller(s)	

(50) Weather at the time of accident No restriction in visibility due to weather. Accident occurred in darkness, prior to sun-up.
 (51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident No.
 (52) Cleared from AAF Station 106 (53) To Combat (54) Kind of clearance Operational
 (55) Pilot's mission Combat
 (56) Nature of accident Taxi accident.
 (57) Cause of accident Pilot of aircraft 44-6080 taxied out on perimeter track, ninety (90) degrees to take-off runway, while pilot of aircraft 44-6111 taxied to aft end of runway, stopped then taxied to extreme left side of runway, and proceeded to take off position. On passing perimeter track the left wing of aircraft 44-6111 collided with nose section of aircraft 44-6080.
 (58) Has form 54 been submitted? No.

Incl. #7-
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34th BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H) ARMY AIR FORCES
Office of the Operations Officer

27 September 1944

SUBJECT: Taxi Accident.

TO : Operations Officer, 304th Bombardment Group (H), AAF, AAF Station
106, APO 557.

1. Following is statement of pilot on taxi accident of 27 September 1944:

" I was lining up with the runway on the extreme left side. I did not see any aircraft on the perimeter too close to the runway. As I passed the perimeter, my left wing tip struck the nose of a ship on the perimeter. I did not see the ship until after I had hit it. None of my crew in the nose and the cockpit reported seeing any lights on the aircraft."

Donald G. Springsted
DONALD G. SPRINGSTED,
2nd Lt, Air Corps,
Pilot.

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

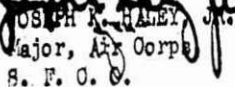
R-A-1

29 Sept., 1944.

SUBJECT: Taxi Accident - Involving A/O B-17, 6080 Pilot Brown and A/O B-17
6141 Pilot Springstead.
TO : COMMANDING OFFICER, AAF Station No. 106, APO 557.

1. On or about 0528, 27 Sept., 1944 A/O 6080 and A/O 6141 collided at
intersection of perimeter track and 24 runway.

2. Position of A/O for take-off: A/O 6080 #3, A/O 6141 #4.


JOSEPH P. HALEY, JR.
Major, Air Corps
S. F. C. O.

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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 that the accident is one hundred (100) percent pilot error. Seventy (70) percent fault of Second Lieutenant Donald G. Springsted, O-695175, and thirty (30) percent fault of First Lieutenant Bert O. Brown, Jr., O-763929.

Pilot Lieutenant Brown was parked ninety (90) degrees on perimeter track, that intersected take-off runway, from the left. When Lieutenant Springsted taxied from perimeter track that intersected take-off runway from the right. He taxied to the extreme aft end of runway. Stopped in middle of runway, then taxied to extreme left side of take-off runway. While taxiing on extreme left side of runway the left wing of his aircraft (44-6141) collided with the nose section of Lieutenant Brown's aircraft (44-6080).

The co-pilot on Lieutenant Brown's crew flashed landing lights to show Lieutenant Springsted their position. Lights were flashed several times when Lieutenant Springsted turned off perimeter to runway and again when taxiing up extreme left side of runway. Lieutenant Springsted, his co-pilot, navigator, and bombardier did not see landing lights flashed from Lieutenant Brown's aircraft.

Lieutenant Springsted kept his left landing light on constantly which cut down his vision of obstacles on his left side to a certain extent. Lieutenant Springsted should have flashed his landing lights alternately, which would have enabled him to see running lights and formation lights on Lieutenant Brown's aircraft more easily.

Lieutenant Brown failed to allow enough space from edge of runway for wing tip clearance of aircraft taxiing into take-off position.

Rec.
The mistakes made causing this accident will be brought to the attention of all flying personnel.

Signature

George H. Koehne, Jr.
(Investigating Officer)

George H. Koehne, Jr., Major, AC

Thomas D. Hutchinson
Thomas D. Hutchinson, Major, AC

Charles W. Bishop
Charles W. Bishop, Captain, AC

Date 6 October, 1944