

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

(1) Place APG 520, U. S. Army (2) Date 23 March 1944 (3) Time 0615  
 AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model B-24H (5) A. F. No. 41-28680 (6) Station APG 520, U. S. Army  
 Organization: (7) 15th Air Force (8) 451st Bomb Gp (9) 724th Bombardment Squadron  
 (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)	RESULT TO PERSONNEL (18)	USE OF PARACHUTE (19)
P	SUMMANN, Wilbert G., Jr.	P	0-745129	2nd Lt.	01	AC	15th	Fatal	No
CP	OKISKI, Karl L.	P	0-694616	2nd Lt.	01	AC	15th	Fatal	No
N	BUCHANAN, William C.	N	0-750178	2nd Lt.	01	AC	15th	Fatal	No
B	CHANGEL0, Reese L.	B	0-684108	2nd Lt.	01	AC	15th	Fatal	No
R	KUPKO, Michael P.	R	33258440	T/Sgt	01	AC	15th	Fatal	No
R	LOCHRIE, Milford (NMI)	R	18109228	T/Sgt	01	AC	15th	Fatal	No
AR	BRUN, Thomas H.	E	32612283	S/Sgt	01	AC	15th	Fatal	No
G	GARR, Andrew B.	G	32606049	S/Sgt	01	AC	15th	Fatal	No
G	KHODY, Theodore R.	G	20841346	S/Sgt	01	AC	15th	Fatal	No
G	BARKLEY, Fred T.	G	17068594	S/Sgt	01	AC	15th	Fatal	No

PILOT CHARGED WITH ACCIDENT

(20) SUMMANN WILBERT G., JR. (21) 0-745129 (22) 2nd Lt. (23) 18 (24) AC  
 (Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Branch)  
 Assigned (25) 15th Air Force (26) 451st Bomb Gp (27) 724th Sq. (28) APG 520, U.S. Army  
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)  
 Attached for flying (29) 15th Air Force (30) 451st Bomb Gp (31) 724th Sq. (32) APG 520, U.S. Army  
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)  
 Original rating (33) Pilot (34) 4/12/43 Present rating (35) Pilot (36) 4/12/43 Instrument rating (37) 8/27/43  
 (Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date) (Date) (Date)

FIRST PILOT HOURS:

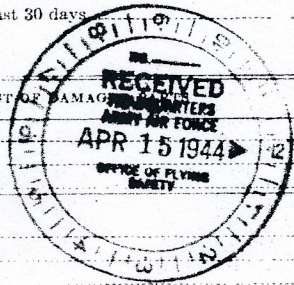
(at the time of this accident)

(38) This type B-24 291:00 (42) Instrument time last 6 months 15:00  
 (39) This model B-24H 80:15 (43) Instrument time last 30 days 0:00  
 (40) Last 90 days 75:25 (44) Night time last 6 months 7:30  
 (41) Total 346:40 (45) Night time last 30 days 0:00

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

DAMAGE	(46)	(47)	(48)
(46) Aircraft	W	W	W
(47) Engine(s)	W	W	W
(48) Propeller(s)	W	W	W

(49) LIST OF DAMAGE  
 (50) Weather at the time of accident E H  
 (51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident No  
 (52) Cleared from Armchair Tower (53) To Combat (54) Kind of clearance Formation  
 (55) Pilot's mission Combat  
 (56) Nature of accident Ship exploded in air and crashed  
 (57) Cause of accident Fire aboard ship in #3 engine causing explosion throughout aircraft.



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ACCIDENT No. 14233356

U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES  
**REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT**

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Organization: (7) 15th Air Force (8) 451st Bomb Gr (9) 724th Bombardment Squadron  
(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)	RESULT TO PERSONNEL (18)	USE OF PARACHUTE (19)
P	SUMMANN, Wilbert G., Jr.	P	0-743129	2nd Lt.	18	AC	15th	Fatal	No
CP	GEISEL, Earl L.	P	0-684516	2nd Lt.	18	AC	15th	Fatal	No
N	BUCHANAN, William C.	N	0-750178	2nd Lt.	19	AC	15th	Fatal	No
B	CHANCELO, Rocco L.	B	0-684108	2nd Lt.	01	AC	15th	Fatal	No
E	KUPKO, Michael P.	E	33255640	T/Sgt	38	AC	15th	Fatal	No
R	LOCHRIE, Milford (WMI)	R	16109926	T/Sgt	38	AC	15th	Fatal	No
AE	BRUN, Thomas W.	B	32612283	S/Sgt	38	AC	15th	Fatal	No
G	GARR, Andrew B.	G	32605049	S/Sgt	38	AC	15th	Fatal	No
G	RHODY, Theodore B.	G	20841346	S/Sgt	20	AC	15th	Fatal	No
G	BARLEY, Fred T.	G	17088594	S/Sgt	38	AC	15th	Fatal	No

~~PERSONNEL WHO ACCIDENT~~

(20) SUMMANN WILBERT G. JR. (21) 0-743129 (22) 2nd Lt. (23) 18 (24) AC  
(Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Branch)  
Assigned (25) 15th Air Force (26) 451st Bomb Gr (27) 724th Sq. (28) AFPO 520, U.S. Army  
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)  
Attached for flying (29) \_\_\_\_\_ (30) \_\_\_\_\_ (31) \_\_\_\_\_ (32) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)  
Original rating (33) Pilot (34) 4/12/43 Present rating (35) Pilot (36) 4/12/43 Instrument rating (37) 8/27/43  
(Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date) (Date)

FIRST PILOT HOURS:

(at the time of this accident)

(38) This type	<u>B-24</u>	<u>261:00</u>	(42) Instrument time last 30 days	<u>25:00</u>
(39) This model	<u>B-24H</u>	<u>20:15</u>	(43) Instrument time last 90 days	<u>0:00</u>
(40) Last 90 days		<u>75:25</u>	(44) Night time last 90 days	<u>7:30</u>
(41) Total		<u>261:00</u>	(45) Night time last 30 days	<u>0:00</u>

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BY J.C. DATE 7/20/43

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE BY \_\_\_\_\_

DAMAGE	(46) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
(46) Aircraft	<u>Y</u>
(47) Engine(s)	<u>Y</u>
(48) Propeller(s)	<u>Y</u>

(50) Weather at the time of accident \_\_\_\_\_  
(51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident No  
(52) Cleared from Approach Tower (53) To Combat (54) Kind of clearance Formation  
(55) Pilot's mission Combat  
(56) Nature of accident Ship exploded in air and crashed  
(57) Cause of accident Fire aboard ship in #3 engine causing explosion throughout aircraft.

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# CONFIDENTIAL

## DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

The plane was observed to take off in the normal manner, after becoming airborne, #3 engine was seen to begin to smoke indicating that a fire was present. The bombs were salvaged at which time the aircraft crashed. Findings indicate that a fire had spread throughout the ship evidently causing explosion resulting in crash.

## RESPONSIBILITY

The responsibility has been set as mechanical with fire resulting.

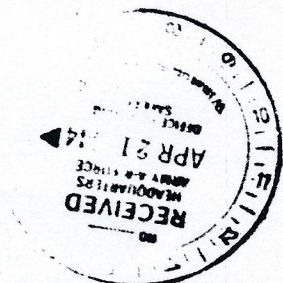
*Robert E. L. Hatch*  
ROBERT E. L. HATCH,  
Colonel, Air Corps

*Linnon R. Blackmon*  
LINNON R. BLACKMON,  
Major, Air Corps

*Marshall Y. Kremer*  
MARSHALL Y. KREMER,  
Captain, M. C.

*William H. McManus, Jr.*  
WILLIAM H. McMANUS, JR.,  
Captain, Air Corps

*Leland A. Youkin*  
LELAND A. YOKIN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Aircraft Accident Officer.



Signature \_\_\_\_\_

(Investigating Officer)

Date \_\_\_\_\_