

RESTRICTED

ACCIDENT No. _____

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

(1) Place Castelluccio Air Field, Italy (2) Date 21 November 1944 (3) Time 1130
AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model B-24D (5) A. F. No. 42-52099 (6) Station Castelluccio Air Field
Organization: (7) Fifteenth Air Force (8) 451st Bomb (9) 725th Bomb
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

PERSONNEL

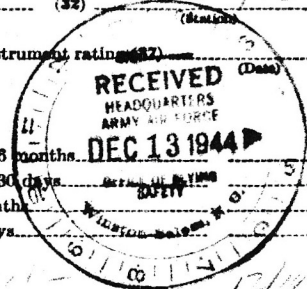
DUTY (10)	NAME (Last name first) (11)	RATING (12)	SERIAL NO. (13)	RANK (14)	PERSONNEL CLASS (15)	BRANCH (16)	AIR FORCE OR COMMAND (17)	RESULT TO PERSONNEL (18)	USE OF PARACHUTE (19)
	<u>P Lather, Frank J.</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>0-433546</u>	<u>Capt</u>	<u>O1</u>	<u>AC</u>	<u>15th</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>No</u>
<u>CP</u>	<u>Braun, Hugh P.</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>0-1695416</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>AC</u>	<u>15th</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>No</u>
<u>CP</u>	<u>Palaskis, Edward</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>0-785305</u>	<u>2nd Lt</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>AC</u>	<u>15th</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>No</u>
<u>E</u>	<u>Clark, Charles C.</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>37417597</u>	<u>T/Sgt</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>AAF</u>	<u>15th</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>No</u>

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

(20) Lather Frank J. (21) 0-433546 (22) Captain (23) O1 (24) AC
(Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Branch)
Assigned (25) Fifteenth Air Force (26) 451st Bomb (27) 725th Bomb (28) Castelluccio A/F
(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) 1-9-42 Present rating (35) Pilot (36) 1-9-42 Instrument rating (37) _____
(Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date) (Date)

FIRST PILOT HOURS:

(at the time of this accident)
(38) This type B-24 764:40 (42) Instrument time last 6 months
(39) This model B-24D 6:00 (43) Instrument time last 30 days
(40) Last 90 days 37:25 (44) Night time last 6 months
(41) Total 2632:45 (45) Night time last 30 days



AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

DAMAGE		(49) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
(46) Aircraft	<u>M</u>	<u>Right flap and aileron, wing burned, #4 engine nacelle burned and internal damage in #4 engine.</u>
(47) Engine(s)	<u>-</u>	
(48) Propeller(s)	<u>-</u>	

(50) Weather at the time of accident Light intermittent rain showers. Overcast at 2,000 ft. Broken 9/10ths coverage at 2,000 ft. Southwest winds at 8 miles per hour.

(51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident No
(52) Cleared from Castelluccio (53) To Castelluccio (54) Kind of clearance Local

(55) Pilot's mission Transition

(56) Nature of accident Fire started in #4 engine on final approach.

(57) Cause of accident Generator housing broken and sparks from armature started fire.

(58) Yes.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED OR CHANGED

TO **RESTRICTED**

BY AUTHORITY CG RHP
BY CG RHP 1-31-46

CONFIDENTIAL

DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

On 21 November 1944 while flying transition, #4 engine on B-24H airplane AAF No. 42-52099 caught on fire on final approach. Airplane landed, and as soon as fire was discovered Pilot put mixture control in idle cut-off, and fuel selector valve and switches were turned off immediately.

RESPONSIBILITY: 100% Materiel Failure.

RECOMMENDATIONS: None

James B. Knapp
JAMES B. KNAPP,
Colonel, Air Corps.

L. Roy Stefanowicz
LEROY L. STEFANOWICZ,
Lt. Col., Air Corps.

Clyde L. Wagner
CLYDE L. WAGNER,
Major, Medical Corps.

William H. McManus, Jr.
WILLIAM H. MCMANUS, JR.,
Major, Air Corps.

Francis J. Hoermann
FRANCIS J. HOERMANN,
Major, Air Corps,
Aircraft Accident Officer.

Signature _____
(Investigating Officer)

Date _____

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

Station Investigating Accident - 451st Bombardment Group (H)

Place of Accident - Castelluccio Air Field, Italy - Plane Type - B-24H

Mission - Transition - Date accident - 21/Nov/44 - Time Accident - 1130

Manner of Occurrence and Probable Cause of Accident - Generator housing broken and sparks from armature started fire in #4 engine on final approach.

Pilot Name - Lather, Frank J. - ASN O-433546 - Age - 23 - Rating - Pilot

Total Pilot Hours - 2632:45 - No. Previous Accidents - None - Date Last Physical Exam. - 13/Aug/44 - History of Physical or Neuropsychic Defects - None

Copilot name - Breen, Hugh P. - ASN O-1695416 - Age - 20 - Rating - Copilot

Total Pilot Hours - 825:05 - No. Previous Accidents - None - Date Last Physical Exam. - 4 May 1944 - History of Physical or Neuropsychic Defects - None

No. Persons in Plane - 4 - No. Persons killed - 0 - No. Persons Injured - 0

No. Persons not Injured - 4.

EQUIPMENT CHECK:

Seats in good order? - Yes - Seat belts provided? - Yes - How many? - 2

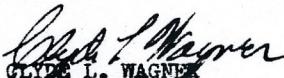
In good order? - Yes - Shoulder harness provided? - Yes - How many? - 2

In good order? - Yes - Parachutes provided? - Yes - How many? - 4 - In good order? - Yes - Oxygen equipment provided? - Yes - Type - Demand - In good order? - Yes - Special saften devices? - None - Material factors

which contributed to or prevented injury? - Fire started in #4 Engine on final approach.

General Statement regarding accident with recommendations - None

Date - 28 November 1944


CLYDE L. WAGNER
Major, Medical Corps
Group Flight Surgeon

WAR DEPARTMENT

ARMY AIR FORCES
RESTRICTED
UNSATISFACTORY REPORT

LEAVE BLANK		
A.S.C. Serial No.	Refer to	Class

(See AAF Reg. 15-54 for information on Proper Use of this Form)

STATION AP0 520		ORGANIZATION 451st Bomb Gp (H) 725th Bomb Sq (H)	
SUBJECT OF REPORT 03-C Generator	Property Class-Name	Manufacturer Delco Remy	AAF Order or Shipping No. W-535-AC-33968
AIRCRAFT - Model & AAF Serial No. B-24H 42-52099	ENGINE - Model & AAF Serial No. R-1830-43 42-88830	UNIT OR ACCESSORY - Type, Model and Serial No.	
AIRCRAFT REPORTS ONLY LAST D.L.R. - Depot	Date	Flying Time Since	Total Flying Time
ENGINE REPORTS ONLY LAST OVERHAUL - Depot	Hours Since	Depots and Hours At Each Previous Overhaul	
PART	Name Generator		Part Drawing, Serial and Specification No. 1106702 21678 Type P-1
	Time in Use 120:20	Quantity on Hand 52	Quantity Known Defective 1
Indicate by <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disposition of Exhibit		<input type="checkbox"/> Photographed and Prints Enclosed	<input type="checkbox"/> Held for Instructions
		<input type="checkbox"/> Sent Under Separate Cover	<input type="checkbox"/> Sent in Attached Package
		<input type="checkbox"/> Repaired and Returned to Service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disposed of (Explain Below.)
			<input type="checkbox"/> To Overhaul Facility (INITIALS.)

GIVE COMPLETE DETAILS, PROBABLE CAUSES AND RECOMMENDATIONS BELOW:
(Use Only Applicable Spaces Above - Avoid Unnecessary Repetition)

EXPEDITE

MATERIAL FAILURE

- DESCRIPTION OF TROUBLE:** On Nov. 21, 1944, while flying transition #4 Engine, AAF No. 42-8830, installed on B-24H Airplane, AAF No. 42-52099, caught fire on final approach. Subject airplane landed, and as soon as fire was discovered Pilot put mixture control in idle cut off, and fuel selector & switches were turned off immediately. A visual inspection was instigated to determine the cause of the fire. Inspection revealed that the 12 hex head bolts, Part No. AN-74-6, which fastens the mounting flange to the field frame had failed. This in turn caused particles of metal to pierce the fuel line - fuel pump to carburetor, Part No. 32G1006-6, thereby causing leakage of fuel. Sparks thrown off by the Armature coming in contact with the fuel, ignited and resulted in fire. No. 4 Engine, nacelle, wing, flap & aileron were badly damaged by the blaze.
- HISTORICAL DATA:** Generator installed this station.
Position: #4 Total Hours: 120:20.
- DISPOSITION:** Airplane turned into the 60th Service Squadron for major repairs.
- PREVIOUS REPORTS:** Two (2) Reference U.R. 44-208 (6-17-44), 44-308 (7-29-44) APO 520.
- RECOMMENDATIONS:** None.
- GENERAL REMARKS:** None.
- PHOTOGRAPHS:** None.

J.W. Ramsey
J.W. RAMSEY,
Capt., AC,
Engineering Officer.

RESTRICTED

ROUTING

SEND ORIGINAL AND TWO COPIES DIRECT TO COMMANDING GENERAL
HQ. AIR SERVICE COMMAND, PATTERSON FIELD, FAIRFIELD, OHIO.