THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

Accident No. 45-10-22-527

Date

Checked by [illegible] 1-20-95

Analyzed by [illegible]

Copied for Wright Field by No Copy

Notes

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

RESTRICTED

121

War Department
A.A.F. Form No. 14
(Revised Jan 15, 1942)

Accident No.....

2 Planes

1-17-45

WAR DEPARTMENT
MISC. DIV. A-2
U.S. ARMY AIR FORCES

15-10-22:527

02-001

ARMY AIR FORCES ACCIDENT

(1) Place...A-48... 22 October 1944... Time 0910
Aircraft: (4) Type & Model B-26G45 (5) No. 42-107579 (6) Station A-61
Organization (7) IX B.D. Ninth AF (8) [illegible] (9) 1st. Pathfinder
(Command Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

PERSONNEL

Duty (9)	Name (Last name first) (11)	Rat (12)	Serial No. (13)	Rank (14)	Per. Class (15)	Br. (16)	Air Force or Command (17)	Result to Per. (18)	Use of Chute (19)
P	Goudette, George	J P	O-753340	2 Lt	01	AC	Ninth AF	None	No
CP	Mahleus, Lawrence	M CP	O-822439	2 Lt	01	AC	Ninth AF	None	No
N	Brown, William F	N	O-708919	2 Lt	01	AC	Ninth AF	None	No
R	Mayes, John F	R	O-709948	2 Lt	01	AC	Ninth AF	None	No
RG	Perry, Chauncey J	RG	32749905	Sgt.	21	AC	Ninth AF	None	No
BG	Robertson, Edward G	BG	39556303	Sgt.	21	AC	Ninth AF	None	No
G	Runyon, Thomas F	G	17012395	S/S	21	AC	Ninth AF	None	No

(20) Goudette, George J (21) O-753340 (22) 2nd. Lt. (23) 01 (24) AC
(Last) (First) (Init) (Rank) (Per. Class) (Branch)

Assigned (25) IX B.D. Ninth AF (26) 522 (27) (28) 450 (29) A-61
(Command & Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)

Attchd for flying (29) IX B.D. Ninth AF (30) [illegible] (31) 1st. Pathfinder (32) A-61
(Command & Air Force) (Group) (Sqdn) (Station)

Pilot Rat. (33) P (34) 30/8/43 Prac. rat. (35) P Inst. rat (37) [illegible]
(Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date)

First Pilot Hours (at time of accident) Prac. rat. date (36) 31/8/45

(38) This type	240:30	(42) Inst. time last 6 mos	22:00
(39) This model	186:20	(43) Inst. time last 30 days	05:30
(40) Last 90 days	79:10	(44) Night time last 6 mos	00:00
(41) Total	628:20	(45) Night time last 30 days	00:00

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

Damage	(49) List of damaged parts
(46) Aircraft M	Left wing tip to 2nd. joint, aileron
(47) Engine(s)	
(48) Propeller(s)	

(50) Weather at time of accident Ceiling 200 feet. Visibility ½ mile. hazy.

(51) Was pilot flying on instruments at time of accident No.

(52) Cleared from A-61. (53) To A-48 (54) Kind of clearance

(55) Pilot's mission Combat

(56) Nature of accident Taxiing accident

(57) Cause of accident Bad taxiing conditions caused A/C to slide in mudon grass causing it to collide with another A/C parked on grass

(58) Has Form 54 been submitted? No

Briefed

RESTRICTED

(10-42)

2-17-45

16-28757-2

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

RESTRICTED

DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

On the morning of 22 October 1944, Lt. Gaudette and Capt. Ferguson left A-61 for the 409th. Bomb. Group. The weather conditons that morning were bad, the ceiling being 200 feet with rain showers. The tower at the 409th. Group instructed Capt. Ferguson to park on the grass next to the control tower and later instructed Lt. Gaudette to park next to Capt. Ferguson's ship.

Both Capt. Ferguson and Lt. Gaudette found the grass to be much more slippery than they thought it was. From all indications Lt. Gaudette did everything he could to prevent the collision and save the planes from further damage.

Further accidents of this kind could be prevented if a man will guide the A/C in and not park them too close, as the brakes are not much use in stopping an A/C in mud and slippery grass.

This Officer feels that this accident was due to 75 per cent pilot error since the pilot, Lt. Gaudette tried to park his A/C too close to Capt. Fergusons A/C. The other 25 percent of the responsibility falls upon the control tower for instructing Lt. Gaudette to park so close to Capt. Ferguson.

Signature Charles D. Clowes
(Investigating Officer)
Capt. A.C.

Date 26 October 1944

RESTRICTED

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

RESTRICTED

War Department
A.A.F. Form No. 14
(Revised Jan 15, 1942)

1-17-45

Accident No. 2 Planes 45-10-22-527

DEPARTMENT
Station A-61
U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES

REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

(1) Place A-48 (2) Date 22 October 1944 Time 0910
Aircraft: (4) Type & Model B-26B51 (5) No. 41-31905 (6) Station A-61
Organization (7) IX B.D. Ninth AF (8) ---- (9) 1st. Pathfinder
(Command & Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

PERSONNEL

Duty (10)	Name (Last name first) (11)	Res (12)	Serial No. (13)	Rank (14)	Per. Class (15)	Br. (16)	Air Force Result Use of or Command to Per. chute (17) (18) (19)
P	Ferguson, Matthew H.	P	0-409884	Capt.	01	AC	Ninth AF None No
CP	Haunett, Henry K.	CP	0-670532	1 Lt.	01	AC	Ninth AF None No
N	Downing, James R.	N	0-669016	1 Lt.	01	AC	Ninth AF None No
B	Levin, Leonard L.	B	0-748078	2 Lt.	01	AC	Ninth AF None No
RG	Dutton, George T.	RG	13033627	T/S	21	AC	Ninth AF None No
EG	Lucas, Zolton J.	EG	32245960	Sgt.	21	AC	Ninth AF None No
G	Bothel, Frank (NMI)	G	13048062	Pvt.	21	AC	Ninth AF None No

(20) Ferguson, Matthew H. T. (21) 0-409884 (22) Capt. (23) 01 (24) AC
(Last) (First) (Init.) (Serial) (Rank) (Per. Calss) (Branch)
Assigned (25) IX B.D. Ninth AF (26) 397 (27) Hq. (28) A-72
(Command & Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
Attchd for flying (29) IX B.D. Ninth AF ---- (30) 1st. Path (31) A-61
(Command & A.F. (Group) (Sqdn) (Station)
Org. Rat. (33) P (34) 15/12/42 Pres. rat. (35) P Inst. rat (37) ----
(Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date)
Pres. rat. date (36) 15/12/42

First Pilot Hours (at time of accident)

(38) This type	820:10	(42) Inst. time last 6 mos.	27:35
(39) This model	652:20	(43) Inst. time last 30 days	06:20
(40) Last 90 days	87:20	(44) Night time last 6 mos	00:00
(41) Total	1191:35	(45) Night time last 30 days	00:00

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE NF-DR-1

Damage		(49) List of damaged parts
(46) Aircraft	M	Right wing tip to 2nd. joint
(47) Engine(s)		
(48) Propeller(s)		

(50) Weather at time of accident Ceiling 200 feet. Visibility ½ mile, hazy
(51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at time of accident No
(52) Cleared from A-61 (53) To A-48 (54) Kind of clearance
IF
(55) Pilot's mission Combat
(56) Nature of accident Taxiing accident
(57) Cause of accident Bad taxiing conditions caused another A/C to slide into A/C which was parked on grass
(58) Has Form 24 been submitted? No.

RESTRICTED

(10-42) 16-28757-2

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

RESTRICTED

DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

On the morning of 22 October 1944 Lt. Gaudette and Capt. Ferguson left A-61 for the 409th. Bomb. Group. The weather conditions that morning were bad, the ceiling being 200 feet with rain showers. The tower at the 409th. Group instructed Capt. Ferguson to park on the grass next to the control tower and later instructed Lt. Gaudette to park next to Capt. Ferguson's ship.

Both Capt. Ferguson and Lt. Gaudette found the grass to be much more slippery than they though it was. From all indications Lt. Gaudette did everything he could to prevent the collision and save the planes from further damage.

Further accidents of this nature could be prevented if a man will guide the A/C in and not park them too close, as the brakes are not much use in stopping an A/C in mud and slippery grass.

This Officer feels that this accident was due to 75 per cent pilot error since the pilot, Lt. Gaudette tried to park his A/C too close to Capt. Fergusons A/C. The other 25 per cent falls upon the control tower for instructing Lt. Gaudette to park so close to Capt. Ferguson.

Signature Charles G. Adelous
(Investigating Officer)
Capt AC

Date 26 October 1944

RESTRICTED

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
1st. Pathfinder Squadron Prov.
APO 140, U.S. Army

25 October 1944

CERTIFICATE

On the morning of 22 October 1944 after landing at the 409th. Bomb. Group to lead a Pathfinder mission, I was instructed to park next to Capt. Fergusons ship by the Control Tower. I taxied considerable distance beyond Captl Ferguson's ship and started to turn before leaving the hard surface, being wary of the slippery grass. As I taxied onto the grass area the ship refused to respond to inside (left) brake, so I could not increase the turn. As soon as I realized this I applied full right brake but failed to stop in time to avoid colliding with Capt. Ferguson's aircraft.

George J. Gaudette Jr

GEORGE J. GAUDETTE, JR.,
2nd. Lt., Air Corps.

RESTRICTED

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
1st. Pathfinder Squadron Prov.
APO 140, US Army

25 October 1944

C E R T I F I C A T E

On the morning of 22 October 1944, Lt. Gaudette and I were assigned to lead the 409th. Bomb. Group on a Pathfinder mission. After landing at the 409th., I was told by the Control Tower to park on the grass opposite the tower trailer. I taxied off the runway onto the grass at a minimum speed and experienced trouble in controlling the ship due to the extremely slippery condition of the ground. After bringing my ship to a stop, which required approximately a ships length, I turned and maneuvered to the designated parking position.

Lt. Gaudette landing later than I, was directed to park next to me but under such conditions was unable to either stop or turn his aircraft sufficiently to avoid collision with my ship.

Matthew H.T. Ferguson

MATTHEW H.T. FERGUSON,
Captain, Air Corps.

RESTRICTED

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

RESTRICTED

OFFICE OF THE OPERATIONS OFFICER
1st. Pathfinder Squadron Prov.
APO 140, U.S. Army

25 October 1944

SUBJECT: Assessment of Damage to A/C 42-107579 and A/C 41-31903.

TO : Commanding General, Ninth Air Force, APO 696, U.S. Army.
(Through Channels)

1. Following is the damage on A/C 42-107579 incurred during a taxiing accident that occurred on 22 October 1944:

Left wing tip to 2nd. joint - Major damage - Replacement

Left aileron - Major damage - Replacement.

2. Following is the damage on A/C 41-31903 incurred during the above mentioned taxiing accident:

Right wing tip to 2nd. joint - Major damage - Replacement.

Vaner A. Smith

VANER A. SMITH,
Captain, Air Corps,
S-3 Officer.

RESTRICTED

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

RESTRICTED

F-4447
1-8439

HEADQUARTERS
1st. Pathfinder Squadron Prov.
APO 140, U.S. Army

25 October 1944

SUBJECT: Aircraft Accident Report.

TO : Commanding General, Ninth Air Force, APO 696, U.S. Army.
(Through Channels)

1. Transmitted herewith is AAF Form 14 and supporting papers concerning accident of B-26C45, Air Corps Number 42-107579, and B-26B31, 41-31903, which occurred at 0910, 22 October 1944, at station A-61.

Robert A. Porter
ROBERT A. PORTER,
Major, Air Corps,
Commanding.

Inclosures:

1. AAF Form 14's.
2. Certificate of Matthew H. Ferguson, Capt., AC.
3. Certificate of George J. Gaudette, 2nd. Lt., AC.
4. Assessment of Damage to A/C 42-107579.
5. Assessment of Damage to A/C 41-31903.

360.33 1st Ind. E-J-3
HEADQUARTERS 9TH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION (M), APO 140, U. S. ARMY, 7 December 1944.

TO: Commanding General, Ninth Air Force, APO 696, U. S. Army.

Submitted in compliance with Memorandum 55-1, Headquarters Ninth Air Force, dated 22 March 1944.

For the Commanding General:

M. S. WORTH,
1st LT AIR CORPS,
ASS'T ADJ. GENERAL.

5 Incls: n/c

198

RESTRICTED

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

RESTRICTED

360.33 2nd Ind. E-CSJ-3
HEADQUARTERS NINTH AIR FORCE, APO 696, US Army. 20 DEC 1944

TO: Chief, Flying Safety, Army Air Forces, Winston-Salem 1, North Carolina.

Report of Aircraft Accident Officer approved.

For the Commanding General:

S.V. HESLIN,
Major, A.G.D.,
Asst Adj. Gen.

5 Incls: n/c

RESTRICTED

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

NAME OF PILOT			TYPE OF PLANE			ACCIDENT NUMBER		
GAUDETTE GEO. J			B-26-C45			45-10-22-527		
CHARGED TO:	OUT	IN	CHARGED TO:	OUT	IN	CHARGED TO:	OUT	IN

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526