WAR DEPARTMENT
A. A. F. Form 1[illegible]
(Revised May 15, 1942)

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WAR DEPARTMENT
AAF STATION A-73
U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES

ACCIDENT No. [illegible]

REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

(1) Place AAF Station A-73 (2) Date 27 January 1945 (3) Time 1600

AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model B-26B50 (5) A. F. No. 42-95938 (6) Station A-73

Organization: (7) 9th B.D. NINTH AF (Command and Air Force) (8) 391st Bomb (Group) (9) 574th Bomb (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	Spangler, Richard B.	P	O-907535	1st Lt	18	AC	NINTH AF	None	No
CP	Frick, Ralph L.	P	O-781276	2nd Lt	18	AC	NINTH AF	None	No
B	Walters, Thomas F.	B	T-131636	F/O	17	AC	NINTH AF	None	No
N	Saathoff, Wilbert L.	N	O-7418106	1st Lt	18	AC	NINTH AF	None	No
EG	Mc Namara, George P.	EG	39103681	S/Sgt	38	AC	NINTH AF	None	No
RG	Tymczak, John E.	RG	32446274	S/Sgt	38	AC	NINTH AF	None	No
AG	Jefferson, Jack M.	AG	36767518	Sgt	38	AC	NINTH AF	None	No

(20) Spangler (Last name) Richard (First name) B. (Middle initial) (21) O-907535 (Serial number) (22) 1st Lt (Rank) (23) 18 (Personnel class) (24) AC (Branch)

Assigned (25) 9th B.D. NINTH AF (Command and Air Force) (26) 391st Bomb (Group) (27) 574th Bomb (Squadron) (28) A-73 (Station)

Attached for flying (29) 9th B.D. NINTH AF (Command and Air Force) (30) 391st Bomb (Group) (31) 574th Bomb (Squadron) (32) A-73 (Station)

Original rating (33) Pilot (Rating) (34) 28 Jul '43 (Date) Present rating (35) Pilot (Rating) (36) 28 Jul '43 (Date) Instrument rating (37) 9 March 1944 (Date)

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

(38) This type	259:10	(42) Instrument time last 6 months	2:00
(39) This model	192:10	(43) Instrument time last 30 days	2:00
(40) Last 90 days	78:55	(44) Night time last 6 months	5:50
(41) Total	547:30	(45) Night time last 30 days	0:00

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

	DAMAGE L	DAMAGE R	(49) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
(46) Aircraft	W		Total loss.
(47) Engine(s)	W	W	
(48) Propeller(s)	W	W	

(50) Weather at the time of accident Visibility of three (3) miles; scattered low clouds at two thousand (2000) feet; surface wind three hundred ten (310) degrees at four (4) to seven (7) MPH.

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

(52) Cleared from A-73 (53) To A-73 (54) Kind of clearance Local

(55) Pilot's mission Local formation training.

(56) Nature of accident Landing accident. Plane left runway upon landing.

(57) Cause of accident Plane landed with deflated tire.

(58) Has Form 54 been submitted? No.

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DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

1. On 27 January 1945, 1st Lt Richard B. Spangler was flying a B-26B50 aircraft, A.F. #42-95931, on a local training mission for the purpose of formation practice. Aircraft was loaded with 2 X 2000lb. G.P. bombs.

Upon completing his mission, Lt Spangler returned to base and made a normal landing on runway one-zero-zero (100), touching down in the first quarter of the runway and slightly right of center. Approximately two-hundred (200) yards beyond the touchdown point, the plane ran off the right side of the runway, going through a deep bank of snow at the runway edge. Impact with this snow bank tore off the right main gear and the nose gear. The plane continued sliding for about fifty (50) yards, collapsing the left main gear and turning through almost 180°. Aircraft is total loss as result of this accident.

Examination of tire tracks indicates that accident was due to deflated right main wheel tire. Track made by right tire was almost twice as wide as that made by normally inflated tire. Tire was found to be deflated immediately after accident, with no apparent break in casing. Subsequent inspection revealed valve stem to be sheared in two within the casing.

2. Cause: 100% materiel failure. Plane landed with deflated right main wheel tire, causing aircraft to leave runway.

3. Recommendations: None.

Signature James A Sullens

JAMES A. SULLENS, Lt Col, AC.

Walter J. Ives

WALTER J. IVES, Maj, AC.

Carroll A. Santos Jr.

CARROLL A. SANTOS, JR., Maj, AC.

Date 29 January 1945.

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PILOT'S STATEMENT OF ACCIDENT

1. I was flying aircraft AAF No 42-95931, a B-29B50. I had 120 M.P.H. when the aircraft touched the ground in the middle of the runway. With the nose wheel in the air, the aircraft started sliding sideways to the right. I think that this was caused by ice on the runway. I hit full power on the right engine and full left brake. This was inadequate and my right main gear hit the snow piled along the runway, snapping it off. The aircraft spun around to the right, going off the runway doing a 180° turn, coming to a rest off the runway about half of the distance down the field. The crew wnet out the escape hatches, none being seriously hurt.

Richard B Spangler

RICHARD B. SPANGLER
1st Lt, Air Corps
Pilot

CO-PILOT'S STATEMENT OF ACCIDENT

1. The aircraft was in landing approach. The main wheels hit the ground at approximately 120 M.P.H. with nose gear in the air. The plane skidded to the right caused by, in my opinion, ice. The left brake along with right throttle was applied, but to no avail. The plane hit the snow pile on the right side o f the runway breaking off the right main gear. This in turn broke off the nose gear and sent the plane into a spin of approximately 180° about half way down the runway and off to the right.

Ralph L Frick

RALPH L. FRICK
2nd Lt, Air Corps
Co-Pilot

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1-3858

HEADQUARTERS
AAF STATION A-73

G-F-3

360.33

APO 140, U S Army
30 January 1945

SUBJECT: Report of Aircraft Accident, A.F. No. 42-95931.

TO : Commanding General, 9th Bombardment Division (M), APO 140, U S Army.

F

Transmitted herewith WD AAF Form No. 14, Report of Aircraft Accident, in accordance with paragraph 2, Memorandum 62-2, Headquarters, IX Bomber Command dated 18 April 1944.

For the Commanding Officer:

FEB 1945

CYRIL S. FARFEL,
1st Lt, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

3 Inclosures.
Incl #1 - WD AAF Form No. 14 (in quad)
Incl #2 - Statements of Pilot & Co-Pilot (in quad)
Incl #3 - 1 set pictures (in quad).

360.33 1st Ind. E-Q-14
HEADQUARTERS 9TH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION (M), APO 140, U. S. ARMY, 4 February 1945.

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

F

Submitted in compliance with Memorandum 55-1, Headquarters Ninth Air Force, dated 27 November 1944.

For the Commanding General:

C. C. VEGA, Jr.,
LT. COLONEL, A.C.
ADJUTANT GENERAL.

3 Incls: 1 cy ea w/d

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360.33 2nd Ind. E-
HEADQUARTERS NINTH AIR FORCE, APO 696, US Army, 8 February 1945.

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

Report of Aircraft Accident Committee approved.

For the Commanding General:

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

3 Incls: n/c (2 cys w/a)

NAME OF PILOT	TYPE OF PLANE	ACCIDENT NUMBER
SPANGLER. Richard B	B-26 B.50	45-1-27517

CHARGED TO:	OUT	IN	CHARGED TO:	OUT	IN	CHARGED TO:	OUT	IN