

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

ACCIDENT No. \_\_\_\_\_

(1) Place AAF Station A-73 (2) Date 21 March 1945 (3) Time 1331  
AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model B-26C45 (5) A. F. No. 42-107620 (6) Station A-73  
Organization: (7) 5th B.D. Ninth AF (8) 391st Bomb (9) 575th Bomb  
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

[illegible]

(20) Bass (Last name) (21) Earl (First name) (22) J. (Middle initial) (23) 0-667915 (Serial number) (24) 1st Lt (Rank) (25) 18 (Personnel class) (26) AC (Branch)

Assigned (27) 9th B.D. Ninth AF (Command and Air Force) (28) 391st Bomb (Group) (29) 575th Bomb (Squadron) (30) A-73 (Station)

Attached for flying (31) 9th B.D. Ninth AF (Command and Air Force) (32) 391st Bomb (Group) (33) 575th Bomb (Squadron) (34) A-73 (Station)

Original rating (35) Pilot (Rating) (36) 13 Dec 42 (Date) (37) Present rating (Rating) (38) Pilot (Rating) (39) 13 Dec 42 (Date) (40) Instrument rating (Rating) (41) 6 March 44 (Date)

(at the time of this accident)

(38) This type.....	128:00	(42) Instrument time last 6 months.....	5:40
(39) This model.....	23:40	(43) Instrument time last 30 days.....	2:15
(40) Last 90 days.....	106:00	(44) Night time last 6 months.....	3:20
(41) Total.....	1462:20	(45) Night time last 30 days.....	1:10

DAMAGE				(40) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
	L	R		
(46) Aircraft				Pilot's windshield, copilot's windshield, left propeller blades.
(47) Engine(s)				
(48) Propeller(s)	0			

(50) Weather at the time of accident No clouds; visibility of eight (8) miles; wind from 270° at five (5) miles per hour.

(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 training.

(56) Nature of accident Slabs of asphalt paving struck stationary aircraft.

(5) Cause of accident Prop wash of aircraft in front of subject aircraft dislodged asphalt.

(58) Has Form 54 been submitted: No.

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

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## DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

1. On 21 March 1945, 1st Lt Earl J. Bass was scheduled to fly a B-26C45 aircraft, A.F. #42-107620 on a local training mission.

Lt Bass taxied out and pulled up at end of runway two-three, and stopped at an angle of forty-five (45°) degrees to the taxi strip, while waiting for aircraft ahead to be cleared for take-off. This aircraft, a B-26G15, A.F. #44-67986 was piloted by Lt Norman W. Sherwood, O-813962. Lt Sherwood, prior to take-off, ran his engines up to maximum power on the taxi strip, blowing loose slabs of asphalt from taxi strip into Lt Bass' aircraft, causing pilot's and co-pilot's windshields to be broken, plexiglass of nose broken, damage to left propeller, and minor dents in fuselage and left engine cowling.

2. Cause: One hundred percent (100%) airfield terrain. Taxi strip surfaces at the point of accident occurrence are in bad condition. Asphalt surfacing is cracked and loose.

3. Recommendations: None.

Signature

*Ernest N. Loungren*  
 ERNEST N. LOUNGREN, Lt Col, AC.  
*Carroll A. Santos, Jr.*  
 CARROLL A. SANTOS, JR, Maj, AC.  
*Manley C. Richmond*  
 MANLEY C. RICHMOND, Maj, AC.

Date 25 March 1945

Re SOS USAPP/8-43/25W/11340

RESTRICTED





WAR DEPARTMENT  
A. A. F.  
FORM NO. 1 A  
2-2-42

# FLIGHT REPORT - ENGINEERING

INSPECTION STATUS				SERVICING AT STATION OF TAKE-OFF (CHECK IMMEDIATELY BEFORE TAKE-OFF)												
	DATE OF OR HOURS DUE	INSPECTED TODAY		SERVICE	FUEL (GALLONS)		OIL (QUARTS)								RADIATOR CHECKED	
		BY	STATION		SERV. ICED	IN TANKS	NO. 1		NO. 2		NO. 3		NO. 4			
PREFLIGHT	21 Mar 45	Jump	A-73													
DAILY	20 Mar 45	Jump														
25 HOURS	503:40															
50 HOURS	538:40															
100 HOURS	538:40															
Plugs	L. 515:20 R. 197:15															
Batts	1260/1260	Jump														

INSPECTION OF AUXILIARY EQUIPMENT				STATUS TODAY		EXPLANATION: Stud missing in L. Gen house- ing. TOs 02-10G-48, 01-35E-94 & 122 03-10J-1 NCW TMI 03-20E-10 NCW, 9th BD 65-87 NCW
EQUIPMENT	SYMBOL	INSPECTED BY	STATION	1.	2.	
BOMBARDMENT	Y	Yarovitz	A-73			
GUNNERY	Y	Yarovitz	A-73			
CHEMICAL	Y	Yarovitz	A-73			
COMMUNICATIONS	C	Crocker	A-73			
PHOTOGRAPHIC	J	Jump	A-73			
NAVIGATION	J	Jump	A-73			
Aus. P. P.	J	Jump	A-73			
GEE	P	Patterson	A-73			

REMARKS: PILOTS AND MECHANICS - SEE INSTRUCTIONS INSIDE FRONT COVER.  
SECRET OR CONFIDENTIAL EQUIPMENT INSTALLED

#1. OK. J. I. Lippincott, 1st Lt., A.C.

#2. Ship Damaged by Flying Concrete when ship ahead  
ran engines up to Max. power.  
Earl J. Bass, 1st Lt. A.C.

AIRCRAFT AND ENGINE TIME RECORD (ENTER IN HOURS AND MINUTES)				
ENGINE	NO. 1	NO. 2	NO. 3	NO. 4
HOURS TO DATE	488:40	97:15		
HOURS TODAY	2:35	2:35		
TOTAL	491:15	99:50		
OIL CHANGE DUE	538:40	147:15		
COND. CLEAN- ING DUE				

AIRCRAFT		TOTAL	
HOURS TO DATE	488:40		
HOURS TODAY	2:35		
TOTAL	491:15		

THIS IS A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

*J. E. Dougherty*  
L. E. DOUGHERTY,  
Captain, Air Corps,

2nd Serv by T/Sgt. Jump  
1st Serv by Sgt. Myles

ENGINE DATA			AIRCRAFT DATA			AIRCRAFT ORG. DATA		
(1) ENGINE SERIAL NO.	FP-060/12	R-2800-43	(1) AIRCRAFT SERIAL NO.	42-107620	(1) AIRCRAFT ORG. DATA	9th	(1) STATION	21 Mar 45
(2) ENGINE SERIAL NO.	42-37635		(2) AIRCRAFT SERIAL NO.		(2) AIRCRAFT ORG. DATA	9th Bomber	(2) STATION	A-73
(3) ENGINE SERIAL NO.			(3) AIRCRAFT SERIAL NO.		(3) AIRCRAFT ORG. DATA	391st Bomb (H)	(3) STATION	T/Sgt. Jump
(4) ENGINE SERIAL NO.			(4) AIRCRAFT SERIAL NO.		(4) AIRCRAFT ORG. DATA	575th Bomb (H)	(4) STATION	
(5) ENGINE SERIAL NO.			(5) AIRCRAFT SERIAL NO.		(5) AIRCRAFT ORG. DATA		(5) STATION	
(6) ENGINE SERIAL NO.			(6) AIRCRAFT SERIAL NO.		(6) AIRCRAFT ORG. DATA		(6) STATION	
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575TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M), ARMY AIR FORCES  
391ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP

APD 140, U. S. ARMY  
21 MARCH 1945.

PILOT'S STATEMENT ON DAMAGE TO AIRCRAFT 42-107620.

"AT APPROXIMATELY 1400 HOURS, 21 MARCH 1945, I, LT EARL J. BASS, PILOT OF B26 AIRCRAFT 42-107620, PULLED UP AT END OF RUNWAY 23 AND PARKED THE AIRCRAFT AT APPROXIMATELY A 45 DEGREE ANGLE TO TAXI STRIP. WHILE AWAITING AIRCRAFT TO LAND AND PERMISSION TO TAKE OFF BEHIND AIRCRAFT 896 THE PILOT OF AIRCRAFT 896 RAN HIS RIGHT ENGINE UP TO MAXIMUM POWER. IN DOING SO HE BLEW SLABS OF ASPHALT INTO THE WIND-SHIELD AND LEFT PROP OF AIRCRAFT 620. I CALLED THE TOWER AND INFORMED THEM TO NOTIFY THE PILOT TO REPORT TO GROUP OPERATIONS UPON LANDING. I THEN TAXIED AIRCRAFT 620 BACK TO ITS HARDSTAND."

*Earl J. Bass*  
EARL J. BASS,  
1ST LT, AIR CORPS,  
PILOT.

*Incl 5* RESTRICTED

**RESTRICTED**  
OFFICE OF FLYING CONTROL  
AAF STATION A-73  
APO 140

23 MARCH 45

SUBJECT: AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT.

TO : WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

1. ON 21 MARCH 1945, AT 1331 HOURS, A B-26 PREPARING TO TAKE-OFF ON RUNWAY NO. 23, BLEW PIECES OF TARMACK OFF OF THE PERIMETER STRIP WHICH STRUCK LEFT PROPELLER AND LEFT WIND SHIELD ON B-26, 620-B, CAUSING THEM TO BECOME DAMAGED. LT BASS, WAS THE PILOT OF B-26, NO. 620-B. AT THIS TIME THE WIND WAS 280 DEGREES, 2 TO 4 MILES PER HOUR.

2. THE RUNWAY AND PERIMETER TRACKS ARE INSPECTED TWICE DAILY BY THE DUTY FLYING CONTROL OFFICER AND AT ANY TIME FURTHER INSPECTION IS DEEMED NECESSARY THE ALERT JEEP IS DISPATCHED TO MAKE A CHECK. THE CONDITION OF THE TARMACK SURFACE OF RUNWAY 23 AND ADJACENT RAMP IS SUCH THAT IF AIRCRAFT ENGINES ARE RUN UP ON IT WITH OUT PARKING THE AIRCRAFT AT AN ANGLE SO AS TO DIRECT THE PROPELLER BLAST OFF TO ONE SIDE, DAMAGE MAY OCCUR TO ANY AIRCRAFT THAT ARE PARKED DIRECTLY BEHIND. THIS CONDITION HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE MAINTENANCE ENGINEER AND OPERATIONS. IT IS ALSO OBVIOUS TO CASUAL OBSERVATION, SO THAT A PILOT SHOULD BE ABLE TO SEE IT FROM AN AIRCRAFT. ANY LOOSE MATERIAL IS ALWAYS CLEANED UP, BUT THIS DOES NOT PREVENT FURTHER CRUMBLING WHEN AIRCRAFT RUN UP ENGINES.

3. THIS ACCIDENT WAS NOT WITNESSED BY THE DUTY FLYING CONTROL OFFICER AND THE INFORMATION IN PARAGRAPH NUMBER (1) ONE ABOVE, WAS OBTAINED INDIRECTLY AND CANNOT BE ATTESTED TO BY THIS OFFICE.

*Donald E. Murray*  
DONALD E. MURRAY,  
CAPT., AIR CORPS,  
D.F.C.O.

*Encl # 6*

**RESTRICTED**

RESTRICTED  
575th BOMB SQUADRON  
Engineering

F-D-ms  
22 March 1945.

SUBJECT: Damage to Airplane B-26C45, Serial No. 42-107620.

TO : Whom it may concern.

1. Subject airplane was inspected after the accident on 21 March 1945, and the following damage noted.

- a. Pilot's windshield broken.
- b. CO-Pilot's windshield broken.
- c. Right top plexiglas nose turret broken - one hole about three (3) inches in diameter and two long cracks.
- d. Left propeller damaged, but is repairable.
- e. Several minor dents in fuselage and left engine cowling.
- f. Left engine carburetor was removed and impeller inspected. There are minor nicks in impeller but engine is serviceable.

*L. E. Dougherty*  
L. E. DOUGHERTY,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Engineering Officer.

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*Incident #7*



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HEADQUARTERS  
391ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP

E-L-p

APO 140, US Army  
25 March 1945

SUBJECT: Appendix to AAF Form 14.

TO : Whom It May Concern.

1. Following Items 20 thru 45 regarding aircraft accident of 21 March 1945, involving B-26C45 aircraft, A. F. No. 42-107620; for pilot of aircraft which dislodged slabs of asphalt paving.

(20) Sherwood, Norman W.	(21) O-813962
(22) 1st Lt	(23) 18
(24) Air Corps	(25) 9th B. D. Ninth AF
(26) 391st Bomb Gp	(27) 574th Bomb Sq
(28) A-73	(29) 9th B. D. Ninth AF
(30) 391st Bomb Gp	(31) 574th Bomb Sq
(32) A-73	(33) Pilot
(34) 1 October 43	(35) Pilot
(36) 1 October 43	(37) 13 May 44
(38) 312:20	(39) 110:15
(40) 104:25	(41) 616:35
(42) 5:15	(43) 2:15
(44) 4:25	(45) 1:45

For the Commanding Officer:

*Ernest N. Ljunggren*  
ERNEST N. LJUNGREN  
Lt Col, Air Corps  
Investigating Officer

Incl 2

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HEADQUARTERS  
AAF STATION A-73

G-F-3

360.33

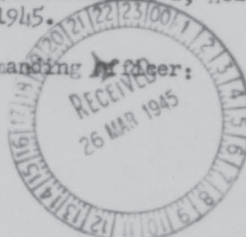
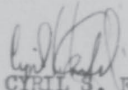
APO 140, U S Army  
26 March 1945

F SUBJECT: Report of Aircraft Accident, A.F. No. 42-107620.

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

Transmitted herewith WD AAF Form No. 14, Report of Aircraft Accident, in accordance with paragraph 2, Memorandum 62-2, Headquarters, 9th Bombardment Division (M), dated 12 March 1945.

For the Commanding General:


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

## 8 Inclosures:

- 1 - WD AAF Form No. 14 (in quad)
- 2 - Appendix to WD AAF Form No. 14 (in quad)
- 3 - WD AAF Form No. 1 (in quad)
- 4 - WD AAF Form No. 1A (in quad)
- 5 - Statement of Pilot (in quad)
- 6 - Statement of D.F.C.O. (in quad)
- 7 - Statement of Engineering Officer (in quad)
- 8 - Accident Pictures.

360.33

1st Ind.

E-Q-3

F HEADQUARTERS 9TH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION (M), APO 140, U. S. ARMY, 31 March 1945.

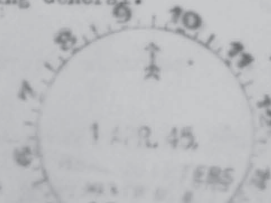
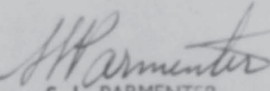
TO: Commanding General, Ninth Air Force, APO 696, U. S. Army.

1. Submitted in compliance with Memorandum 55-1, Headquarters Ninth Air Force dated 5 March 1945.

2. Delay in submission due to coordination and investigation within this headquarters.

For the Commanding General:

8 Incls: n/c (in trip)


  
 S. L. PARMENTER,  
 CAPTAIN, A.C.  
 ASST ADJ. GEN.

0647

RESTRICTED