

**RESTRICTED**

U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES  
REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

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

173

44-3-31-516

(1) Place Station 106 (2) Date 31 March, 1944 (3) Time 1530

AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model B-17G (5) A. F. No. 42-38013 (6) Station 106  
Organisation: (7) VIII (8) 38th Bomb (H) (9) 547th Bomb (H) (Squadron) Z354

PERSONNEL

DOY	NAME (Last name first)	RATING	SERIAL No.	RANK	PERSONNEL CLASS	BRANCH	AIR FORCE OR COMBINED	RESULT TO PERSONNEL	USE OF PARACHUTE
(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)
P	DASKEY, KENDALL (NMI)	P	0-804622	1st Lt.	18	AC	VIII	None	None
CP	HUBER, ELBRIDGE H.	P	0-755565	2nd Lt.	18	AC	VIII	None	None
N	MITTENDORF, ERHARD (NMI)	N	T-61184	F/O	01	AC	VIII	None	None
TOG	SWIFT, KENNETH G.		31143869	T/Sgt.	20	AC	VIII	None	None
RO	ADAIR, NORMAN R.		6592708	T/Sgt.	20	AC	VIII	None	None
E	LENICH, FRANCIS A.		13028145	T/Sgt.	20	AC	VIII	None	None
AG	TEETMAN, LEO F.		12146789	S/Sgt.	38	AC	VIII	None	None
AG	SCHLEUSE, ROBERT E.		18213921	S/Sgt.	38	AC	VIII	None	None
AR	FISK, LLOYD C.		36222561	S/Sgt.	38	AC	VIII	None	None
AE	MARKIEWICZ, JOHN H.		10600982	S/Sgt.	20	AC	VIII	None	None

PILOT CHARGED WITH ACCIDENT

(20) DASKEY, KENDALL (NMI) (21) 0-804622 (22) 1st Lt. (23) 18 (24) AC  
(Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personal class) (Branch)  
Assigned (25) VIII (26) 38th Bomb (27) 547th Bomb (H) (28) 106  
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)  
Attached for flying (29) VIII (30) (31) (32) Z354  
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)  
Original rating (33) Pilot (34) 18 May '43 (35) Pilot (36) 18 May '43 (37) 10 Sept. '43  
(Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date) (Date) (Date)

First Pilot Hours:  
(at the time of this accident)

(38) This type 308:20 (42) Instrument time last 6 months 7:15  
(39) This model 83:15 (43) Instrument time last 30 days 0:00  
(40) Last 90 days 200:30 (44) Night time last 6 months 10:35  
(41) Total 421:10 (45) Night time last 30 days 0:00

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

NF

DAMAGE	(46) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
(46) Aircraft 3	2 engines, 2 propellers, 2 superchargers, 2 flaps
(47) Engine(s) 4	damaged, left outer wing damaged, 2 nacelles slight-
(48) Propeller(s) 4	ly damaged, ball turret jettisoned.

(49) Weather at the time of accident 7/10 cloud, base 2,500 feet, visibility 4 miles.

(51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident No.  
(52) Cleared from Station 106 (53) To Combat (54) Kind of clearance Operational  
(55) Pilot's mission Operational

(56) Nature of accident Left landing gear would not extend. Landed on one wheel.

(57) Cause of accident Clutch to left landing gear motor had too high a torque, shearing landing gear drive shaft.

(58) Has Form 54 been submitted?

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# DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

Lt. Kendall Daskey, O-604622, piloting A/C 42-38013, while returning from a recalled operational mission on 31 March, 1944, discovered that the left landing wheel would not extend either manually or electrically. Lt. Daskey contacted his home base by radio and received instructions to jettison the bomb load and ball turret in the Channel and return to base and cruise locally until the gasoline supply was reduced to approximately 500 gallons. Lt. Daskey complied with the above instructions and again contacted the base by radio for landing instructions. He was instructed to extend both the tail wheel and the right main landing wheel and make a normal landing on the left side of the runway in order that the left wing would extend beyond the edge of the hard surface. Lt. Daskey followed these instructions and after touching down succeeded in holding the left wing up until speed had been appreciably reduced. The left wing tip finally dragged the ground which caused the A/C to slowly ground loop. The outer panel of the left wing as well as the propellers of #1 and #2 engines were damaged.

The accident was due to a mechanical failure. In view of the frequency of landing gear motor failures it is recommended that an investigation of this item be made by the Materiel Section.

Signature

THOMAS P. BECKETT,  
Lt. Col., Air Corps,

ARTHUR M. STONE, JR.,  
Captain, Air Corps.

CHARLES W. BISHOP,  
1st Lt., Air Corps.

5 April, 1944.

Hq SOS USAPP/6-43/15W/10409

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HEADQUARTERS  
AAF STATION NO. 106  
Office of the Flying Control Officer

April 4, 1944.

SUBJECT: Crash landing of B-17, #8013.

TO : Commanding Officer, AAF Station No. 106.

1. On or about 0845, 31 March, 1944, the operational aircraft were recalled. 8013 was unable to lower his left wheel. He was advised to proceed to the Wash and jettison his bombs and ball turret.

2. Having jettisoned his bombs and ball turret, and still unable to lower his left wheel, he made a successful crash landing on runway 30, about 1530 hours, 31 March, 1944.

*Joseph W. Halley, Jr.*  
JOSEPH W. HALEY, JR.,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
S. F. C. O.

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(GHD-51-1-384)(31-3-44)(238013-B-176)



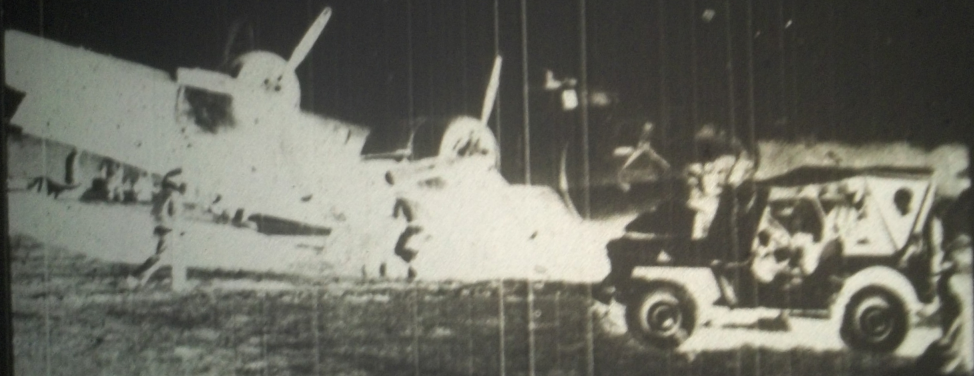
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(GHD-51-2-384)(31-3-44)

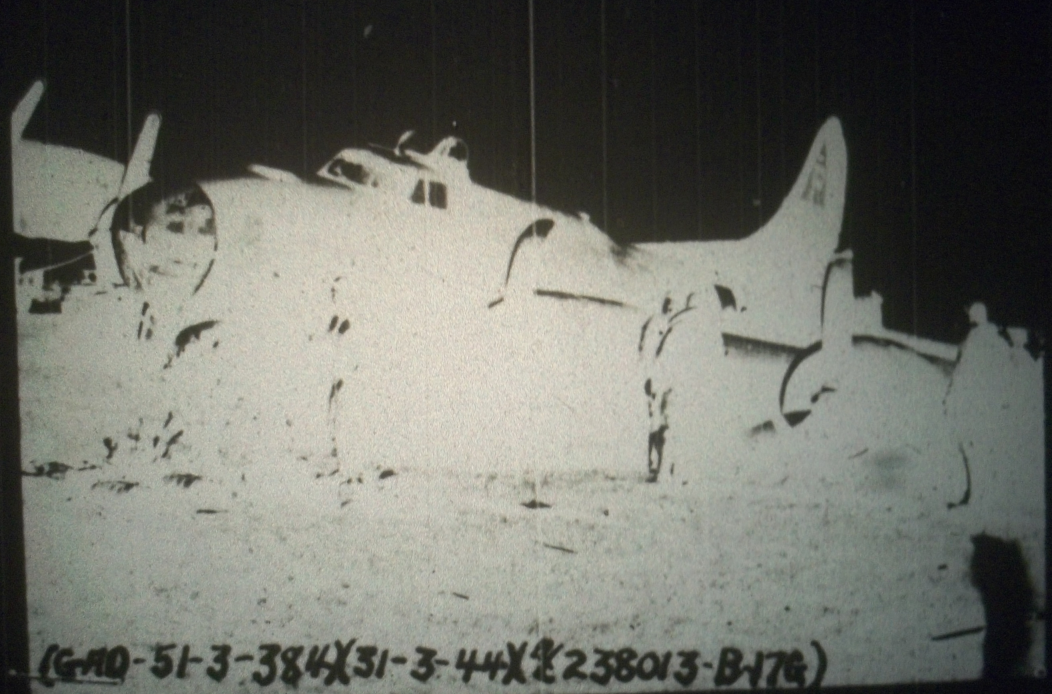
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