

DEPARTMENT  
FORM NO. 14

ACCIDENT NO. 1

WAR DEPARTMENT

U.S. ARMY AIR FORCES

REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

44-4-3-587

(1) PLACE Decinonannu (2) DATE 3 April 1944 (3) TIME 0728  
 AIRCRAFT (4) Type and model B-26B (5) A. I. No. 41-17853 (6) Station Decinonannu  
 Organization (7) 12th AF (8) 320 (9) 444  
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

PERSONNEL

DUTY (10)	NAME (11)	RATING (12)	SERIAL NO. (13)	RANK (14)	PERSONNEL CLASS (15)	BRANCH (16)	A.F. OR COMM. (17)	RESULT TO PERSONNEL (18)	USE OF PARACHUTE (19)
	<u>LATTAN, SGT. L.</u>	<u>(F)</u>	<u>0-79107</u>	<u>2nd Lt.</u>	<u>20131</u>	<u>AC</u>	<u>12th</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>NO</u>
	<u>BRADY, THOMAS G.</u>	<u>(F)</u>	<u>0-737571</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>20101</u>	<u>AC</u>	<u>12th</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>NO</u>
	<u>SMITH, STANLEY (11)</u>	<u>(F)</u>	<u>0-798396</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>20101</u>	<u>AC</u>	<u>12th</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>NO</u>
	<u>SMITH, FRANK S.</u>	<u>(F)</u>	<u>0-851711</u>	<u>1st Lt.</u>	<u>20101</u>	<u>AC</u>	<u>12th</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>NO</u>
	<u>SMITH, STANLEY</u>	<u>(F)</u>	<u>14070415</u>	<u>Sgt.</u>	<u>11115</u>	<u>AC</u>	<u>12th</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>NO</u>
	<u>SMITH, STANLEY</u>	<u>(F)</u>	<u>32515131</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>22120</u>	<u>AC</u>	<u>12th</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>NO</u>
	<u>SMITH, ROY J.</u>	<u>(F)</u>	<u>35303663</u>	<u>S/Sgt.</u>	<u>22120</u>	<u>AC</u>	<u>12th</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>NO</u>

PILOT CHARGED IN ACCIDENT

(20) LATTAN, SGT. L. (21) 0-791707 (22) 2nd Lt. (23) 201 (24) AC Res.  
 (Last name) (First name) (MI) (Serial no.) (Rank) (Personnel class) (branch)  
 signed (25) 12th AF (26) 320 (27) 444 (28) Decinonannu  
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)  
 Date for flying (29) 11/21/43 (30) 201 (31) 444 (32) Decinonannu  
 (Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)  
 Flight rating (33) Pilot (34) 11/21/43 Present rating (35) 1st (36) 12th Instrument  
 (Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Base) rating (37) 11/21/43  
 (Date)

Pilot Hours

(The time of this accident)  
 This type 359:20 (42) Instrument 11 (43) None  
 This model 359:20 (44) Instrument 11 (45) None  
 Last 90 days 30:05 (46) Night time last 90 days None  
 Total 359:20 (47) Night time last 90 days None

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

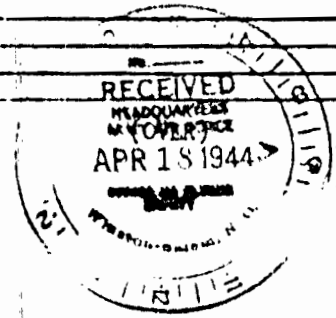
(48) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS  
 (Aircraft) 5  
 (Engine(s)) 2-5  
 (Propeller(s)) 2-5

the time of accident not involved

Was pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident No  
 Cleared from Decinonannu (53) To Blas (54) Kind of clearance 028

Pilot's mission interdiction (55) (56) to blow up bridges and return.

Nature of accident left engine touched immediately following takeoff and rolled over into ground on left wing.  
 Cause of accident Apparent loss of over, left engine.



RESTRICTED

DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

Accident occurred during and immediately following take off. An apparent loss of power on the left engine caused the left wing to dip just after gear was retracted. Left prop hit runway and according to witnesses, one blade was thrown from hub about 1/4 mile from end of runway as aircraft regained slight altitude. Pilot was unable to maintain enough control for normal belly landing and aircraft crashed approx. 3/4 mile from runway, sliding about 150 yards from point of initial impact. Crew members were removed from wreckage before aircraft was destroyed by fire.

The aircraft was a stripped B-26 with new engines having approx. only 10 hours on them.

It is impossible to determine the cause of the accident definitely because of the destruction of the aircraft by fire.

*William L. Martin*  
WILLIAM L. MARTIN,

Major, Air Corps,

*Frank K. Collins*  
FRANK K. COLLINS,

Major, Air Corps,

*Robert S. Saylor*  
ROBERT S. SAYLOR,

Captain, Air Corps,

Report Completed.

11 April 1944

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
(Investigating Officer)

RESTRICTED



Accident No. 9-1-17

Date

Checked by A.A.

1 26 14

Analyzed by A.S.M.

1-21-14

Copied for Wright

Field by \_\_\_\_\_

Notes \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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