

RESTRICTED

ARMY AIR FORCES

## REPORT OF MINOR ACCIDENT

Use this form for minor accident only in accordance with AAF Reg 62-14, and "Aircraft Accident Investigator's Handbook," issued by Office of Flying Safety, Under Section B, "Accident Data," minor injuries and/or minor damages are those as defined in the above regulation.

FIELD OFFICES DO NOT USE	ACTION	DATE	ACCIDENT NO. 46-7-8-700 TYPE, MODEL & SERIES B-17G, B-17G NO. AIRCRAFT INVOLVED 2
	FORM 144 RECEIVED	7-21	
	EVALUATED BY		
	VERIFIED BY		
	CHECKED BY		
CODED BY			

## SECTION A - IDENTIFYING DATA

(1) PLACE OF ACCIDENT - STATE - COUNTY - NEAREST TOWN - DISTANCE & DIRECTION FROM SAME		NEAREST ARMY AIRFIELD - DISTANCE & DIRECTION FROM SAME	
In flight 100 Miles SE of 1407th AAF Base Unit BURDAGO			
(2) WAS COLLISION WITH OTHER AIRCRAFT? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	(3) AF NUMBERS OF AIRCRAFT INVOLVED (FILE SEPARATE FORM 144 FOR EACH AIRCRAFT)	DATE	DAY NIGHT HOUR & TIME ZONE
	B-17 G 43-37975 B-17G 43-38704	8/7/45	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DAY <input type="checkbox"/> NIGHT 1730Z
(4) AIRCRAFT NO. 43-38704	(5) TYPE B-17	MODEL G	(6) HOME STATION LEVANHAM
(7) AIR FORCE OR COMMAND 8th AAF	SUB-COMMAND 1st Div	WING ---	GROUP - NO. AND TYPE 487 Bombardment
(8) OPERATOR (LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, INITIAL) Gerard, Lawrence J	GRADE 1st Lt	TOTAL PILOT TIME ---	BRANCH AG
		ASN 0-2015073	AGE --
		SEX M	(9) NORMAL DUTY STATUS Pilot
(10) ATTACHED STATION Transient	AF OR COMMAND 8th AAF	SUB-COMMAND 1st Div	WING ---
			GROUP - NO. AND TYPE 487 Bombardment
			SQUADRON 839

## SECTION B - ACCIDENT DATA

(1) DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT (INCLUDE MISSION) B-17 #43-38704 and #43-37975 were in a flight of 32 aircraft being ferried from Levanham to Valley for redeployment to the zone of interior. The flight departed from Levanham with a one (1) minute take off separation. The pilots had been briefed to fly at 6000ft at which altitude there was 5/10th cumulus clouds. This was not a formation flight. About 100 miles south east of Valley both aircraft emerged from a cloud with B-17 #43-37975 directly above B-17 #43-38704 in very close proximity. Both pilots took evasive action. At this point the bottom of the tail turret of B-17 #43-37975 made contact with the top of the vertical stabilizer of B-17 #43-38704 causing slight damage to both aircraft. The flight was continued on to Valley without incident. No change in flying characteristics was noticed in either aircraft.

(2) PERSONNEL INVOLVED, NAME, GRADE, BRANCH, ASN, HOME STATION, EXTENT OF INJURY

No injuries.

(3) EXTENT OF DAMAGES - AIRCRAFT AND/OR OTHER

B-17 G 43-38704 Six inches on the top of the vertical stabilizer bent over

B-17 G 43-37975 Skin dented on bottom of tail turret.

(4) CONTRIBUTING CAUSE FACTORS

Pilots flying instruments intermittently when take-off separation was intended for contact flight.

REPORTING STATION 1407TH AAF BASE UNIT	SIGNATURE OF ACCIDENT OFFICER <i>Lawrence J. Gerard</i>	GRADE Captain	ASN 0-158344
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(Use reverse side for additional remarks if necessary)

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HEADQUARTERS  
1407TH AAF BASE UNIT  
EUROPEAN DIVISION, AIR TRANSPORT COMMAND  
APO 741 c/o PM NEW YORK, NY

OPS/JDR/mmc

360.33

14 July 1945

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Report of Minor Accident, AAF Form No. 14A.

TO : Commanding General, AAF, Winston-Salem, N. C.  
Attn: Chief, Flying Safety.

1. Transmitted herewith Report of Minor Accident, AAF Form No. 14A for B-17G 43-38704.

For the Commanding Officer:

*Joyce C. Went*  
JOYCE C. WENT,  
1st Lt, Air Corps,  
Adjutant.

Incl: AAF Form No. 14A

DISTRIBUTION:

Commanding General, AAF, Winston-Salem, N. C.  
Attn: Chief, Flying Safety.  
Commanding General, Hq. 8th Air Force,  
AAF Sta. 201, APO 633, U.S. Army. (thru channels)  
Medical Officer, 1407th AAF Base Unit, European  
Division, ATC, APO 741, U. S. Army.

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