WAR DEPARTMENT
A. A. F. Form No. 14
(Revised May 15, 1942)

ACCIDENT NO. 136

WAR DEPARTMENT
U. S. AMY AIR FORCES
REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

(1) Place San Giovanni, Air Field (2) Date 15 May 1944 (3) Time 1320

AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model B-24H (5) A. F. No. 41-28665 (6) Station San Giovanni, Air Field

Organization: (7) 304th Wg--15th AF (8) 455th (9) 743rd Bomb Sq (H),
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (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	KEAHEY, GEORGE O.	P	0-742727	1st Lt.	01	AC	15th AF	None	No
CP	REGAN, MARK (NMI)	CP	0-688275	2nd Lt.	18 01	AC	15th AF	None	No
E	REES, RAY E.	E	39833873	S/Sgt	38 2 0	AC	15th AF	None	No
R	WALLACE, EDWIN N.	R	18052222	S/Sgt.	38 2 0	AC	15th AF	None	No

RECEIVED HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES JUN 1 1944 WASHINGTON, D. C.

PILOT OR NAVIGATOR

(20) KEAHEY, GEORGE O. (Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (21) 0-742727 (Serial number) (22) 1st Lt. (Rank) (23) 0-1 (Personnel class) (24) AC (Branch)

Assigned (25) 304th Wg--15th AF (Command and Air Force) (26) 455th (Group) (27) 743rd Sq. (H) (Squadron) (28) San Giovanni (Station)

Attached for flying (29) ____ (Command and Air Force) (30) ____ (Group) (31) ____ (Squadron) (32) ____ (Station)

Original rating (33) P (Rating) (34) 4-12-43 (Date) Present rating (35) P (Rating) (36) 4-12-44 (Date) Instrument rating (37) ____ (Date)

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

(38) This type	386:50	(42) Instrument time last 6 months	17:00
(39) This model	275:10	(43) Instrument time last 30 days	---
(40) Last 90 days	137:20	(44) Night time last 6 months	15:20
(41) Total	386:50	(45) Night time last 30 days	---

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE NF

	DAMAGE	(46) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
(46) Aircraft	5	Class 26
(47) Engine(s)	5 5 1 1	#1 & 2 engines beyond repair
(48) Propeller(s)	5 5 1 1	#1 & 2 propellers beyond repair

(50) Weather at the time of accident C.A.V.U

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

(52) Cleared from San Giovanni (53) To Local (54) Kind of clearance Local

(55) Pilot's mission Training

(56) Nature of accident Tire blew-out on take-off (Left main gear folded) A/C beyond repair

(57) Cause of accident Tire failure

RESTRICTED

(10-42)

DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

The pilot started a normal take-off as part of a formation training flight. At an indicated air speed of about 80 miles an hour the left main tire went flat & the throttles and brake applied in an attempt to bring the aircraft under control and swing it off the runway after slowing down. As the aircraft left the runway the left gear hit a small depression and was torn off, resulting in non-repairable structural damage to the aircraft.

The cause of the accident is attributed wholly to material failure and it recommended that closer inspection of tires be made to detect cuts and bruises which might cause blow-outs or rapid loss of pressure.

This was a group III accident.

Signature David W. Hart
(Investigating Officer)
DAVID W. HART, Major, AC

Date 19 May 1944

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—29757-1

S T A T E M E N T

To whom it may concern:

I, George O. Keahey, 1st Lt., Air Corps, ASN O-742727 on the 15th of May 1944 piloted B-24H, No. 41-28665 on a practice mission. I was number three for takeoff in F Box.

A routine inspection of tires and landing gear before starting failed to indicate any fault, however on takeoff when an indicated air speed of 75 to 80 mph had been attained the left tire went flat and the ship swerved to the left. I applied full left throttles and cut the right throttles attempting to hold it straight with throttles and rudder. When this had little effect, brakes, right only, were used but the left wing continued dropping and the ship ground looped some 100 feet to the left of the runway having lost the left landing gear as we left the runway..

George O. Keahey

GEORGE O. KEAHEY,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot.

S T A T E M E N T

HEADQUARTERS
455TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
APO 520 US ARMY

19 May 1944

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Records.

TO : Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington, D.C.

In compliance with Part V, Par 1a, AAF Reg 62-14A, dd 28 January 1944, transmitted herewith is the AAF Form No 14 on an accident which occurred at this station.

For the Group Commander:

David W. Harp

DAVID W. HARP
Major, Air Corps,
Air Inspector

A4S,

1 Incl - AAF Form No 14

MOTOR PLN SECTION
AAF
HQ AAF