

Adopted: May 19, 1944

File No. 4281-43

REPORT OF THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD  
on the  
Investigation of an Accident Involving Aircraft  
During a Local Practice Flight

Phillip Dumont Hobson was seriously injured when he fell from an airplane approximately 6 miles east of Singleton Field, Fort Worth, Texas, about 2:00 p.m. on October 14, 1943. Both he and the pilot, Vincent Sevier Allison, were War Training Service Navy advanced trainees. Allison held a student pilot certificate and had flown approximately 145 solo hours, around 70 of which were in the type airplane involved. The aircraft, a Waco UPF-7, NC 32131, owned by the Defense Plant Corporation, was not damaged.

Allison, accompanied by Hobson, took off from Singleton Field about 1:00 p.m. for a local practice flight. Approximately one hour later, after he had practiced various maneuvers, he turned the controls over to Hobson, telling him to perform any maneuvers he desired. At an altitude of about 3000 feet, Hobson executed a snap roll, then started a slow roll. During these maneuvers his safety belt became unfastened and he fell from the plane while it was in an inverted position. His descent by parachute appeared normal; however, he fractured his left leg in landing.

Examination of the safety belt revealed no indication of failure. It is believed that although the safety belt was worn by Hobson, the sleeve on the belt was not properly adjusted over the clasp, allowing it to become unfastened during acrobatic maneuvers.

This accident was due to Hobson's carelessness in not having his safety belt properly buckled during the execution of acrobatic maneuvers.

BY THE BOARD

/s/ Fred A. Toombs  
Secretary