

To Whom It May Concern,

I have been requested to relate my knowledge of aviation history's first automatic blind landing under zero-zero weather conditions at Pinecastle Army Airfield, Pinecastle, Florida in a B-17G with 1st Lt. Coman W. Rothrock in command.

As (then a 1st Lt. AC) my involvement in this project was through my assignment as Administrative Officer, Test and Development Section, under the direction of Capt. Edward R. Neff Jr. My main duties were to compile test results and data from the project officers and arrange them in proper sequence for progress reports to the Air Forces Board.

Lt. Rothrock (chosen for his superior flying abilities) was the project officer for the "All Weather Project." I was aware of the progress being as he systematically overcame each hurdle along the way up to the actual test.

There were many alerts for this historic flight that were aborted because of rapidly changing weather conditions. There was no way to schedule in advance when weather conditions would be zero-zero. Consequently there was no "hoopla" - press or radio because it was all an if come situation.

The final test flight came about, to the best of my knowledge, in the latter part of November 1944.

I hereby certify this information to be true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

  
Frank R. Dacey  
5693 Werkshire Terrace  
Milford, Ohio 45150

*Sworn to before me  
this 20th day of February, 1994  
Roger C. Hoyer  
Notary Public  
Commission expires 10/1/97*