

Undated, unnamed newspaper clipping from Emma's collection

Buddy Bowie Lands Safely in Parachute Leap From Transport

Buffalo, N.Y., Jan 13-Eight men parachuted to safety yesterday afternoon from a flaming Curtiss Commando C-46 cargo plane which plunged to earth after scraping the top of a farmhouse in Lapp Road, midway between Goodrich and Transit in Clarence Center.

Eye witnesses indicated the big ship, which Curtiss-Wright officials said was on a routine test flight, dropped a motor near Swormsville. Then, trailing smoke and flame, it fell as the crew members hit the silk in quick succession and landed with minor cuts and bruises.

Mrs. George Engasser, whose home in Lapp Road is diagonally across the street from the spot where the ship crashed, reported it scraped the top of her home.

Eye witnesses said the plane was circling crazily-it was flaming, and was losing altitude rapidly.

Arthur Bowie, co-pilot, son of Mrs. Arthur J Bowie, Newport, Ark, received a one-inch cut on the right side of the chin. He and the pilot, Ray Blozzies, did not leave the plane until the six members of the crew had parachuted. In a letter to his mother, Bowie said that he parachuted from 500 feet and that the ship was a mass of flames.

In his 14 years' experience in flying this is the first crash Bowie has ever experienced.

Wreckage of the plane was strewn over an area of 200 or 300 square yards. The field in which the plane landed was plowed up for 100 feet, the ship landing right along the roadside. One huge piece of metal, apparently torn loose in the descent, was perched in a tree 30 feet from the ground near the Engasser home.
