

The Giddings News

September 25, 1942

**AIRMAN BAILS OUT
NEAR GRASSYVILLE**

An aviator bailed out of his plane Sunday night at 10:30, 1¼ miles west of Grassyville on the Bright farm. A crowd of people was at Ben Arldt's and heard the airplane overhead being raced and soon saw it falling. It fell in a peanut patch.

The aviator noticed the engine going bad and, after racing it to regain speed, saw there was no use and thought he would be killed if he stayed in the plane so he bailed out at a height of 2,500 ft. He landed safely in his parachute near the airplane. That was his first parachute jump. A colored man's house was nearby and the aviator was brought to Grassyville where connection was made with Brooks Field, San Antonio, the aviator's base to which he was returning from Bryan. The airplane exploded after hitting the ground and all the front part was wrecked and parts thrown 40 yards away. The rear part was not damaged.