

Sadly - exit one Mustang



Alan Kingwell has sent in copies of these photos – the original notes say “this accident happed 1000ft from where the photographer was standing on Sunday at the Reno air Races right in front of the crowd. Amazingly the pilot was not hurt except for a few scratches.”



Sadly - exit one Mustang



But then there was the wind. About 30 MPH with higher gusts and dust getting kicked up. As we stood in front of the crowd, the Sport Gold race was happening. George Giboney flying the Thunder Mustang named "Rapid Travel" declared a mayday and entered a right downwind for 26 with no power. He flew clear of the other racers before turning base. Due to the strong winds, he ran out of altitude and landed rolling almost perpendicular to the runway. He rolled into the dirt and then a bump which launched the plane about 10 feet into the air. It then cart wheeled and tumbled - wings came off, engine pulled from the fuselage and the plane appeared to settle upside down, gear up. Everyone thought the worst. About 10 minutes later, the pilot was announced OK. The fans cheered.

Photos and the news story at:

<http://www.mynews4.com/story.php?id=28178&n=122><<http://www.mynews4.com/story.php?id=28178& n=122>>

Copyright Splash acknowledged

For those of you grieving because a warbird P 51 was apparently wrecked at the Reno Air Races, things were not so bad as the aircraft was a replica Thunder Mustang which in itself is an interesting aircraft/ engine combination as you can see from their website. (Updated: 1.10.10)

<http://www.thundermustang.com/>