

Howard Wayne Grolmes

Born: 26 April 1929 – 9 April 1954

(aged 24)

A Kansas City air force pilot was killed yesterday in the explosion of a T-28 trainer in the air over a wooded area near Selma AL. The pilot was the only occupant of the plane, which crashed after the explosion. The pilot was Lieutenant Howard Wayne Grolmes, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel B. Grolmes, 3232 Campbell Street. Lieutenant Grolmes was on temporary duty at the Craig Air Force Base near Selma from the 3640th Pilot Training Group, Laredo Air Force Base TX. The main part of the wreckage was found near Burnsville, about fourteen miles east of Selma, with the pilot's body pinned in the cockpit. Because of rough and inaccessible terrain, two men from the air rescue service at the Maxwell Air Force Base near Montgomery were dropped by parachute. There was no immediate explanation of the explosion.

Information from the Kansas City Times, 1954.