

WAR DEPARTMENT
U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES
REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

ACCIDENT NO. _____

duplicate
44-5-29. 514

(1) Place Castelluccio Air Field, Italy (2) Date 23 May 1 (3) Time 0630
AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model B-24G (5) A. F. No. 42-78157 (6) Station Castelluccio Air Field
Organization: (7) 15th A. F. (8) 451 Bomb (9) 727 Bomb
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

PERSONNEL

LINE	NAME (Last name first)	RATING (12)	SERIAL NO. (13)	RANK (14)	PERSONNEL CLASS (15)	BRANCH (16)	AIR FORCE OR COMMAND (17)	RESULT TO PERSONNEL (18)	USE OF PARACHUTE (19)
(10)	P. Head, Cortland E.	P.	0-726467	1st Lt	O1	AC	15th AF	None	None
EP.	Brown, Charles R.	P.	0-316414	2nd Lt	18	AC	15th AF	None	None
M.	Clements, Harold R.	N.	0-690626	2nd Lt	18	AC	15th AF	None	None
E.	Kaister, Donald C.	E.	0-749721	2nd Lt	18	AC	15th AF	None	None
R.	Thomas, John (NMI)	E.	32369329	T/Sgt	33	AAF	15th AF	None	None
AE.	White, Lawrence H.	AE	15114455	S/Sgt	38	AAF	15th AF	None	None
AAB.	Hogile, Max B.	AAB	6987365	S/Sgt	20	AAF	15th AF	None	None
ROG.	Demeo, Rocco S.	ROG	32746904	T/Sgt	33	AAF	15th AF	None	None
AG.	Webber, Carl L.	AG	11097140	S/Sgt	38	AAF	15th AF	None	None
AG.	Thorn, Robert P.	AG	16019817	S/Sgt	38	AAF	15th AF	None	None

PILOT CHARGED WITH ACCIDENT

(20) Read Cortland (21) 0-726467 (22) 1st Lt (23) Q1 (24) AC
(Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Branch)
Assigned (25) Fifteenth Air Force (26) 451 Bomb (27) 727 Bomb (28) Castelluccio A/F
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
Attached for flying (29) None (30) None (31) None (32) None
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)
Original rating (33) Pilot 5-2-42 Present rating (34) Pilot 5-23-42 Instrument rating (35) 11-3-43
(Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date) (Date)

FIRST PILOT HOURS:

(at the time of this accident)

(36) This type B-24 (37) 437:10 (43) Instrument time last 6 months
(36) This model B-24G (38) 8:00 (43) Instrument time last 30 days
(40) Last 90 days 154:25 (44) Night time last 6 months
(41) Total 437:10 (45) Night time last 30 days

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

DAMAGE

(46) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS

(46) Aircraft W
(47) Engine(s)
(48) Propeller(s)

Class 26. Major Damage

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ARMED
FORCES
JUN 22 1944
1944

(50) Weather at the time of accident Not required.

(51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident No

(52) Cleared from Castelluccio A/F (53) To Combat (54) Kind of clearance None

(55) Pilot's mission Combat

(56) Nature of accident Ship took off at 120 MPH airspeed - hit prop wash which caused nose to drop - Ship lacked sufficient altitude to recover - Left wing hit runway causing ship to drop back on the runway.

(57) Cause of accident Prop wash from preceding aircraft forced nose of ship down. Ship lacked sufficient altitude to recover.

(58) No

DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

(Brief narrative of accident. Include statement of responsibility and recommendations for action to prevent repetition)

Aircraft took-off at 120 MPH airspeed. Aircraft hit prep wash causing nose to drop. Ship lacked sufficient altitude to recover. Left wing hit runway causing aircraft to drop back on runway and crashing.

RESPONSIBILITY

100% Pilot Error.

Robert E. L. Eaton
ROBERT E. L. EATON,
Colonel, Air Corps.

Linon R. Blackmon
LINON R. BLACKMON,
Major, Air Corps.

Marshall V. Powers
MARSHALL V. POWERS,
Captain, Medical Corps.

William T. McNamee, Jr.
WILLIAM T. MCNAMEE, JR.,
Captain, Air Corps.

Island A. Youdin
ISLAND A. YODIN,
Major, Air Corps.
Aircraft Accident Officer.

Signature _____ (Investigating Officer)