

WAR DEPARTMENT  
U.S. ARMY AIR FORCES

45-9-15-521

REPORT OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT

104

(1) Place Gioia Airfield, Italy (2) Date 15 September 1944 (3) Time 1225H  
 AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model B-24C 040 (5) A.F. No. 42-52440 (6) Station Castelluccio Airfield  
 Organization: (7) XV Air Force (8) 451st Bomb (H) (9) 725th Bomb (H) (10) Y169  
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

Duty (10)	NAME (Last name first) (11)	Rating (12)	Serial No. (13)	Rank (14)	PERSONNEL Class (15)	REASON (16)	AIR FORCE OR COMMAND (17)	RESULT TO PERSONNEL (18)	USE OF PARACHUTE (19)
A	SMITH, ROBERT E.	PE	0-798599	2nd Lt.	01	AC	XV AF	None	--
A	OINONEN, CHARLES A.	CP	0-1309810	2nd Lt.	180	AC	XV AF	None	--
A	YENKNER, CHARLES E.	N	T-126382	F/O	179	AC	XV AF	None	--
A	BURLEY, ROBERT G.	E	3522306	Cpl.	3810	AC	XV AF	None	--
A	BIANCAVILLA, B.	X	12301718	S/Sgt.	3510	AC	XV AF	None	--

PILOT CHARGED WITH ACCIDENT

(20) SMITH, ROBERT E. (21) 0-798599 (22) 2nd Lt. (23) 01 (24) Air Corps  
(Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (Serial number) (Rank) (Personnel class) (Branch)  
 Assigned (25) XV Air Force (26) 451st Bomb (H) (27) 725th Bomb (H) (28) Castelluccio A/F  
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)  
 Attached for flying (29) XV AF (30) 451 (H) (31) 725 (H) (32) AP0 #320  
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron) (Station)  
 Original rating (33) Pilot (34) 2-16-43 Present rating (35) SAME (36) SAME Instrument rating (37) 6-20-44  
(Rating) (Date) (Rating) (Date) (Date) (Date)

FIRST PILOT HOURS:

(at the time of this accident)

(38) This type B-24 154:45 (42) Instrument time last 6 months 27:10  
 (39) This model B-24C 4:40 (43) Instrument time last 30 days 1:45  
 (40) Last 90 days 71:45 (44) Night time last 6 months 31:15  
 (41) Total 1107:40 (45) Night time last 30 days 0

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

DAMAGE	(46) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
(46) Aircraft <u>None</u>	<u>right tire cut.</u>
(47) Engine(s) <u>None</u>	
(48) Propeller(s) <u>None</u>	

(50) Weather at the time of accident AT  
 (51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident 0  
 (52) Cleared from Castelluccio (53) To Gioia (54) Kind of clearance Administrative  
 (55) Pilot's mission Administrative  
 (56) Nature of accident Landing accident  
 (57) Cause of accident Aircraft hit runway 1/3 of the way down and brakes did not hold.



MEMORANDUM  
DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

STATEMENT OF PILOT

Hit runway about 1/3 of the way down. Both myself and co-pilot  
-- pulled back on stick to hold nose up, but nose dropped after about  
-- 1,000 feet of roll. Brakes were applied, but with no noticeable  
-- effect on speed. All switches were cut when it became obvious that  
we could not stop in time. Brakes were released and and reapplied  
several times in an attempt to get more braking action, but with  
little effect. The co-pilot and myself managed to turn aircraft  
slightly to the right avoiding a clump of trees, but we struck a  
movie projector shed with #4 prop, and a movie screen with #1 prop.  
We rolled over a number of steel stools cutting the right tire.

*Robert E. Smith*  
ROBERT E. SMITH,  
2nd Lt., Air Corps.

Due to the failure of the aircrafts brakes no statement of  
responsibility given.

No recommendation for action to prevent repetition.

Date 15 September 1944.

*W. P. Phillips*  
W. P. PHILLIPS, Capt., AC

*F. E. McVicar*  
F. E. McVICAR, Capt., AC

*W. P. Phillips*  
W. P. PHILLIPS, Capt., MC