

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

45-8-3-220
070
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Y11

(1) Place Castelluccio Army Airfield, Italy (2) Date 8 August 1944 (3) Time 1130
AIRCRAFT: (4) Type and model B-24G (5) A. F. No. 42-76254 (6) Station Castelluccio AAF, Italy
Organization: (7) 15th AF (8) 451st Bomb (9) 727th Bomb
(Command and Air Force) (Group) (Squadron)

PERSONNEL

DUITY (10)	NAME (Last name first) (11)	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)
P	Wardyce, James R.	P	0-702261	2nd Lt	1001	AC	15th	None	No
CD	Palmer, Ray (M.I.)	P	0-380111	1st Lt	01	AC	15th	None	No
POB	Ferguson, Roy L.	P	0-822032	2nd Lt	1001	AC	15th	None	No
AE	Hera, Walter F.	E	23591167	Sgt	3820	AAF	15th	None	No
AE	Ulshofer, Ronald M.	AE	33322823	Cpl	3820	AAF	15th	None	No
RO	De Mott, Erwin W.	ROG	32892614	Sgt	3820	AAF	15th	None	No
AE	Alderman, Ralph T.	AAE	34371734	Cpl	3820	AAF	15th	None	No
AG	Duckson, Robert	AG	15340568	Sgt	3120	AAF	15th	None	No
AG	Smith, Robert M.	AG	11129373	Cpl	3120	AAF	15th	None	No

PROCEEDINGS OF ACCIDENT

(20) Palmer, Ray (Last name) (First name) (Middle initial) (21) 0-380111 (Serial number) (22) 1st Lt (Rank) (23) 01 (Personnel class) (24) AC (Branch)
Assigned (25) 15th Air Force (Command and Air Force) (26) 451st Bomb (Group) (27) 727th Bomb (Squadron) (28) Castelluccio AAF (Station)
Attached for flying (29) _____ (Command and Air Force) (30) _____ (Group) (31) _____ (Squadron) (32) _____ (Station)
Original rating (33) Pilot (Rating) (34) 1-7-44 (Date) Present rating (35) Pilot (Rating) (36) 1-7-44 (Date) Instrument rating (37) _____ (Date)

FIRST PILOT HOURS:
(at the time of this accident)
(38) This type B-24 116:36 (42) Instrument time last 6 months _____
(39) This model B-24G 33:15 (43) Instrument time last 30 days _____
(40) Last 90 days 113:15 (44) Night time last 6 months _____
(41) Total 433:55 (45) Night time last 30 days _____

AIRCRAFT DAMAGE

NF AMW 9-5

DAMAGE	(49) LIST OF DAMAGED PARTS
(46) Aircraft <u>13</u>	Bottom nose section - Bulkhead - Nose wheel doors -
(47) Engine(s) <u>1 1 1 1</u>	Hydraulic lines - Bombarding panels and frames.
(48) Propeller(s) <u>1 1 1 1</u>	

(50) Weather at the time of accident CAVU
(51) Was the pilot flying on instruments at the time of accident No
(52) Cleared from Castelluccio (53) To Training
(54) Kind of clearance Training

(55) Pilot's mission Practice formation flying
(56) Nature of accident Nose wheel collapsed on landing.

(57) Cause of accident Failure of nose wheel locking mechanism.
(58) No 61



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DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

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

All evidence indicates that the cause of this accident was the result of the nose wheel safety lock breaking loose when the selector handle was placed in the down position after the landing gear was down and locked.

RESPONSIBILITY

Pilot failed to use the prescribed method of lowering the landing gear. This resulted in the failure of the nose wheel safety lock.

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

Elvis E. Bno
ELVIS E. BNO,
Lt. Col., Air Corps.

Clyde L. Wagner
CLYDE L. WAGNER,
Major, Medical Corps.

William L. McManus, Jr.
WILLIAM L. McMANUS, JR.,
Major, Air Corps.

Leland A. Younkin
LELAND A. YOUNKIN,
Major, Air Corps,
Aircraft Accident Officer.

Signature _____
(Investigating Officer)

Date _____