



PURPOSE OF FLIGHT:

Fighter affiliation.

TECHNICAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

LH/PSAL/PSLW/WVJ

NATURE OF ACCIDENT:

Making water landing at Pat., Bay pilot brought the machine in at too much of an angle, staving in the forward portion of the hull. A salvage barge working nearby on another a/c came alongside and towed badly damaged machine to shore before it sank.

COURT OF INQUIRY OR INVESTIGATING OFFICER'S REPORT:

FINDINGS:

SUMMARY No.

CIRCUMSTANCES: A steep approach with engine on in low visibility. Pilot did not flatten out and hull made contact well forward c.cf G. Natural result was a violent yaw which ripped off the nose wheel door. Part of the door operating mechanism pierced the rear bulkhead of the nose wheel compartment causing the a/c to fill and sink.

CONCLUSIONS: This accident is inexcusable. the bad weather was a very limited area, landing should have been made elsewhere, or pilot should have waited until the storm passed.

CLASSIFICATION:

~~40. Heavy landing - flying into ground.~~

4. Heavy

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SECONDARY OR CONTRIBUTORY FACTORS:

~~32. Pilot error.~~

ACTION TAKEN: