

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62

ACCIDENT CLASSIFICATION

UNIT **8 O.T.U.** COM. **E.** PLACE **1 1/2 mls. S.E. Aerodrome** DATE **16-3-45** TIME **0510 GMT**
 H.Q. FILE **1300-KB338-1**

A/C TYPE **MOSQUITO BXX** NO. **KB 338** CRASH CAT. **"A"** S.E. M.E. DAY NIGHT
R **X**

TYPE OF A/C

TYPE OF UNIT

CATEGORY

PERSONNEL	RANK	NUMBER	DUTY	INJURIES	SIGNAL	
CORCORAN, R.L., NZ.	F/O	431319	P.	KILLED	NO.	DATE
GILLESPIE, D.C.A., NZ.	Sgt.	4215123	NAV.	KILLED	A.46	16-3
					D 14 (REVISED)	
					NO.	CHECKED
					4	
					9	

COMMAND

MONTH

STAGE OF FLIGHT

ENGINE	ENGINE NUMBER (S)	HOURS FLOWN BY PILOTS					
		INST.	NIGHT	ON TYPE		TOTAL	
				DUAL	SOLO	DUAL	SOLO
Merlin 33	P.AF-42-245120/A-10-24						
	Totally	76	44	10	31	230	208
	S.AF-42-247749/A-12793						
	Totally	Day - 148.					
		Night - 35.					

FORCED LANDING
 TAXING
 LANDING
 TAKE-OFF
 FLIGHT
 STATRY
 FATAL
 INJ.
 3RD
 INJURY

ACCIDENT CLASSIFICATION

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52

PURPOSE OF FLIGHT:

Naval 10 & Searchlight.

TECHNICAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

Obscure

10C/ADC/PSF/NII/

NATURE OF ACCIDENT:

A/C engaged in searchlight ex. appeared immediately at the beginning of the ex. to be in difficulties. A Red Very Rocket was discharged (normal distress signal). A/C was seen to nose over and dive almost vertically to the ground where it exploded and burned. Visibility good. New moon.

COURT OF INQUIRY OR INVESTIGATING OFFICER'S REPORT:

FINDINGS:

SUMMARY No. 2543.

CAUSE:-

Obscure. Aircraft while engaged by searchlights went out of control and half rolled into ground.

RECOMMENDATIONS:-

Nil

CONCLUSIONS OF A.I.B.

Agree with findings.

NOTE:- No evidence was adduced as to the probable altitude at which the a/c was flying just prior to getting into difficulty. Possible, that, due to a sudden failure of port engine, port wing dropped momentarily, allowing searchlight beam to strike the pilot's eye, temporarily blinding him and preventing him from regaining equilibrium and level flight on one engine before striking the ground.

CLASSIFICATION:

19. Out of Control.

SECONDARY OR CONTRIBUTORY FACTORS:

ACTION TAKEN:

Nil