

7 AIRMEN, W.A.A.F. LOSE LIVES IN PLANE CRASH

Tell
23/12/44

Seven airmen and a W.A.A.F. were killed when a plane crashed in a paddock near Richmond Air Station on Wednesday afternoon.

The plane dived to earth after striking overhead wires in Dight Street, Richmond.

Hundreds of people rushed to the scene of the crash.

The plane had passed over Richmond township, and was coming in to land on the Richmond airport when the accident occurred.

A gardener, Mr. Bob Lane, and other civilians rushed to the aircraft.

Mr. Lane said: "The plane crashed opposite my vegetable garden, and I ran 100 yards to see if I could help.

Engine Failing

"When the plane was flying over the town one of the engines appeared to be laboring.

"The plane narrowly missed the roofs of the Richmond ice works and Mrs. Prington's house next-door."

Killed: F/L R. W. Shore, Forest Road, Bexley; P/O J. J. Broderick, 17 Line Avenue, Mildura; Cpl. R. H. McElroy, Burgess Street, Kogarah; L.A.C. M. Gleeson, Boyce Street, Maroubra; L. J. M. Allen, Belmore Street, Burwood; L.A.C. N. A. Chamberlain, Smith Street, Mascot; A.C.W. N. M. Ralph, Wentworth Road, Strathfield; L.A.C. F. Smith, Larner Street, Narrandera.

The funeral of the victims took place yesterday afternoon at Richmond.

DAILY TELEGRAPH 23-12-44

Waaaf, Seven Airmen Die In Crash

Smit
23/12/44

Six technicians, the pilot and the wireless air gunner, were killed in a service aircraft crash at the Richmond R.A.A.F. station on Wednesday.

One of those killed was a W.A.A.A.F. The plane was returning from an instrument checking flight at 4.35 in the afternoon, when it crashed on its landing approach.

- Those killed were:—
- FLIGHT-LIEUTENANT R. W. SHORE, 273 Forest Road, Bexley.
- PILOT-OFFICER J. J. BRODERICK, 17 Line Avenue, Mildura.
- CORPORAL R. H. McILROY, 8 Burgess Street, Kogarah.
- L.A.C. J. M. GLEESON, 4 Boyce Street, Maroubra.
- CORPORAL J. M. ALLEN, 58 Belmore Street, Burwood.
- L.A.C. N. A. CHAMBERLAIN, 11 Smith Street, Mascot.
- AIRCRAFT-WOMAN N. M. RALPH, 5a Wentworth Road, Strathfield.
- L.A.C. F. F. SMITH, Larner Street, Narrandera.

The bomber was approaching the landing-ground at the aerodrome when it appeared to develop engine trouble.

Mr. B. Lane, a gardener, said that it seemed to be losing height.

"It seemed that a forced landing would have to be made before it reached the aerodrome," Mr. Lane said, "but one wing struck high-tension wires in Dight Street.

"One motor was hurled a considerable distance against a fence as the plane struck the ground."

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD
23-12-44

Plane Crash Victims Buried At Richmond

Seven airmen and a W.A.A.A.F. who lost their lives when an R.A.A.F. service aircraft crashed on a landing approach at Richmond on Wednesday were buried near the scene of the crash yesterday.

DM 23/12/44

THE victims were:
Flight-Lieut. Ronald William Shore, 273 Forest Rd., Bexley; Pilot-Officer John James Broderick, married, of 17 Line Ave., Mildura; Corporal Robert Henry McIlroy, married, 8 Burgess St., Kogarah; L/A/C Joseph Michael Gleeson (34), married, 4 Boyce St., Maroubra; Corporal John McLellan Allen, married, 58 Belmore

St., Burwood; L/A/C Noel Austin Chamberlain (30), married, 11 Smith St., Mascot; A/C/W Nancy Margaret Ralph, "Westward Ho," 5a Wentworth Rd., Strathfield; L/A/C Francis F. Smith, Larner St., Narrandera.

The aircraft was returning from an instrument-checking flight when it struck some overhead wires and plunged to earth.

DAILY MAIL 23-12-44

7