

A17-152

PLANES COLLIDE ON GROUND.

BY OUR AVIATION CORRESPONDENT.

A collision between two training aircraft occurred on the ground at Kingsford Smith airport yesterday.

The aircraft involved were an Airfile, Ltd., Cirrus Moth trainer, with a woman, Miss E. Robertson, at the controls, and an Air Force Tiger Moth primary trainer.

The aerodrome was under control at the time, and Miss Robertson was almost at the end of a landing run into the north-east when the Air Force trainer struck her machine at an angle.

It was stated last night that the Air Force machine involved in yesterday's collision would be in service again to-day.

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

31.12.40

ACCIDENT 30.12.40

MOOTH VH-UAK

TIGER MOOTH A17-152

SUES GIRL FLIER FOR £190

Helen Charmain Dale Robertson, a girl pilot of Waverley, was sued for £190 by the Commonwealth of Australia in the Supreme Court to-day.

Miss Robertson was alleged to have been negligent in the control of an aeroplane on December 30 last year, when a head-on collision occurred at Kingsford-Smith aerodrome between two Moth planes—one the property of the R.A.A.F.

Miss Robertson, who denied negligence, said she held an A pilot's licence, and at the time of the smash had had 13 hours dual and four hours solo flying experience.

Mr. Noel McIntosh (for the Commonwealth) told the Court that the pilot of the R.A.A.F. plane, Pilot-Officer James Hamilton Gordon, was at present serving overseas. Before he left, however, his evidence had been taken on commission.

Flying Solo

Gordon's story was that while his plane was stationary on the tarmac, Miss Robertson landed 30 or 40 yards directly ahead and crashed almost straight into him.

"I asked Miss Robertson if she had been hurt and she said she had not seen my aircraft on the ground. She said she was sorry the accident had happened," Gordon added.

Miss Robertson said she was making her second solo flight that day, when the accident happened.

She could not remember how many solo landings she had

SUN(SYDNEY) 20.11.41