

AND 2 AIRMEN WALKED OUT WITHOUT A SCRATCH



Survive crash at 140 m.p.h.

TWO R.A.A.F. airmen yesterday escaped death in a 140 m.p.h. plane crash at Amberley aerodrome.

They climbed uninjured from the twisted wreckage of their light bomber 400 yards north of the take-off strip.

The plane, a twin engined R.A.A.F. Mosquito, crashed on a test flight at 3.25 p.m.

The crew were:—

Pilot Third-class T. E. E. Poole, of Amberley Aircraft Depot.

Aircraftman-Recruit H. Ellison.

Both Rolls Royce Merlin engines of the bomber cut out at a height of 50ft. soon after take-off.

It cleared a 6ft. deep gully, and tore to pieces as it ploughed 300 yards through tree stumps and logs.

Officers amazed

Engine cowlings, fuselage, and wings were strewn across the aerodrome.

Deep furrows, up to three feet deep, were torn in the swampy ground.

R.A.A.F. officials were amazed at the crew's escape.

They climbed through the badly holed cabin and raced clear as 800 gallons of petrol poured from broken tanks.

Dash to rescue

Air Force personnel, playing football 400 yards away, dashed with a crash crew to their assistance. The wreck did not catch fire.

It is believed that Ellison asked permission to accompany pilot Poole on the test flight.

SPLIT FUSELAGE of the Mosquito light bomber which crashed during take-off at Amberley aerodrome yesterday. The crew walked away unhurt.

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30-08-50