

SKELETON FOUND IN WRECKED PLANE

DARWIN, Saturday.—An aborigine—a former police tracker—found a skeleton in a crashed R.A.F. or R.A.A.F. fighter plane at Fog Bay, 40 miles south-west of Darwin.

He describes the plane as a Spitfire.

He told the Darwin police that he found the plane in

thick mangroves while he was hunting for food. He saw the skeleton in the cockpit, but did not like to go any closer.

The Police Superintendent (Mr. A. V. Streeton) is trying to arrange a search party to investigate the report.

BRISBANE PAPER 46

BODY REPORTED IN CRASHED PLANE

DARWIN: An aboriginal, who returned from a walkabout, reported today that when at Fog Bay, about 75 miles west of Darwin, he found a Spitfire containing one body.

He said he thought there might be another body inside the plane but in that case the authorities say it could not be a Spitfire.

Detective Sergeant McNab, together with R.A.A.F. police and other officials, are leaving today in a fast launch for Fog Bay to investigate the matter. The aboriginal is going with them as guide.

BRISBANE PAPER 46

Battle With Scrub to Reach Plane

DARWIN: Detective Sergeant Eric Arthur McNab had a colourful story to tell of the discovery of a shattered Spitfire at Fog Bay, about 75 miles from Darwin.

George, a former blacktracker, found the Spitfire, and reported it.

A patrol was arranged, including McNab, George, two Air Force men and two Darwin lads.

The party left on Saturday in the Derna, a 34ft. boat and anchored off Indian Island that night. Next day they marched through mangroves. McNab carried a gallon of water, but no food, hoping to find more water on the track, but all the water found proved salt.

They walked to near Fog Bay, turned in through the scrub for seven miles and found the creek dry. By now all were feeling the strain severely.

The party pushed on and found the Spitfire and the remains of the pilot nearby. The plane was badly smashed; pieces were strewn everywhere. The body was practically complete.

Air Force officials took charge of all exhibits and are now having them checked over in order to prove the identity of the pilot.

When the party arrived at the tidal creek that night they found it too high to cross so had to remain on the beach without food or water till the tide receded.

George received a good reward for his discovery and was returned to his own country in an Army jeep.

The whole party suffered with blistered feet and received severe scratches from scrub and jungle growths.

BRISBANE PAPER 1. 47