



W. Braden

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

File C.I.F. 22.8

TELEPHONE: UL.361.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE OFFICER-IN-CHARGE AND QUOTE

No. UL.1693



DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION,
GOVERNMENT AERODROME,

GUILDFORD.

2nd October 1944.

The Officer-in-Charge,
Dept. Civil Aviation,
GUILDFORD.

On Thursday, 28th Sept., five Spitfires accompanied by one Ventura were proceeding from Forrest to Kalgoorlie bound this Airport when one Spitfire crashed. This was reported by Kalgoorlie Aeradio at 0803Z to West bound Douglas UZJ. with the remark that Ventura did not know the position. (Reported by F.C.O. to Fighter Sector at 0827Z) VMZNVQ (Ventura) gave position of crash as follows:- Bearing 29°degrees and 10 miles from Naretha. Spifire on back and pilot not seen to move.

Aeradio asked if someone was required to proceed from Kalgoorlie.... NVO answered "Position of Aircraft suitable for light plane to land and search required immediately."

F.C.O rang Fighter Sector and S.A.S. Officer, Western Area and suggested that VH-UTF proceed to crash. At 0838Z Kalgoorlie Aeradio reported that VH-UTF Pilot Lewis was ready. (F.C.O rang and advised S.A.S. Officer Western Area) at 0842Z Western Area asked "What light aircraft available Kalgoorlie.?" At 0843Z Kalgoorlie Aeradio answered "Lewis has Fox Moth available now."

At 0845Z Lewis suggested that he would go and locate Spitfire and take Doctor with him, and pilot, if injured, be taken to Rawlinna by truck. (F.C.O advised R.A.A.F.) At 0852Z S.A.S. Officer Western Area rang F.C.O said "Go ahead with your plans" and Kalgoorlie Aeradio advised immediately.

Controller A.O.R. rang and requested that F.C.O 'phone reports to him.

At 0939Z Kalgoorlie advised that a Beaufort callsign NVQ as well as Fox Moth would go out. At 0956Z Kalgoorlie advised delay had occurred in contacting land party to go out from Lime Kelms. Lights had been arranged at Zanthers, Rawlinna and Haig to stay on all night. Beaufort NVQ and VH-UTF leaving on search. Beaufort to circle crash and drop flares to guide party.--- reported to A.O.R.

Beaufort with crew of Ventura departed 1240Z for search area to return to Kalgoorlie in approximately five hours, and Fox Moth departed at 1247Z for Zanthers not Rawlinna to stand by and proceed as directed by land party.

At 1354Z Reported over Search Area --- reported A.O.R.
At 1430Z Fox Moth Ambulance VH-UZF landed Zanthers.
At 1452 After one hour's search the Beaufort reported position pretty hopeless as too dark and asked permission to return to Kalgoorlie. Referred to A.O.R. who requested name of

5.10.44

- At 1510 Beaufort reported having seen lights of truck on way out from railway line and also a red very light which must be from plane crashed.----- reported to A.O.R.
- At 1515 Beaufort reported they were guiding truck to where Very light seen and was awaiting developments.
- At 1620 Kalgoorlie asked if Parkestown could close but was instructed to remain open as this would close the land line communication. (A.O.R. confirmed this.)
- At 1633 Beaufort reported truck making slow progress to scene of crash.
- At 1737 Beaufort reported one man walking to crash about one mile away. (Reported A.O.R.)
- At 1754 Gave ETA Kalgoorlie 1039w Passed over Zanthers 1804Z and landed Kalgoorlie 1845Z.

F.C.O. requested Kalgoorlie Aeradio to leave matter in hands of R.A.A.F. as planes were grounded for present.

H.A. Blake

H.A.Blake.
F.C.O.

The Director-General, : For your information. Pilot of the
MELBOURNE. : Spitfire proved to have sustained only
slight injuries and is at present at
Perth. The damaged aircraft would appear
capable of salvage and a ground party is
at the site for this purpose.

Alan G. Gallian
C.I.C. GUILDFORD.
3/10/44.