

ANOTHER CRASH

HAWKER DEMON AGAIN

CREW OF TWO INJURED

Another Hawker Demon machine of the Royal Australian Air Force crashed yesterday at Cootamundra (N.S.W.). Two sergeants who comprised the crew were injured slightly.

The crew of the machine, which belonged to No. 1 Squadron, which was returning to Laverton from Brisbane, was as follows:—

Sergeant R. J. Parker, pilot; broken nose, abrasions, and slight concussion.

Sergeant W. Brockie, observer and mechanic; facial abrasions.

Reports received by the Air Board yesterday disclosed that eight machines left Cootamundra on the return flight to Melbourne. Soon after leaving the aerodrome the machine piloted by Sergeant Parker appeared to lose height when flying at 150ft.

Almost immediately the machine crashed to the ground. The impact caused the machine to rebound into the air for several feet, and it finally came to rest upside down. The machine was wrecked.

A man who was loading hay in the field saw the crash from a distance of about 30 yards. He hurried over to the machine and dragged the pilot, who was badly dazed, clear. He then assisted Sergeant Brockie away from the machine.

The remaining six machines turned back to Cootamundra. One of them broke a wheel in landing, and came to rest on its wing.

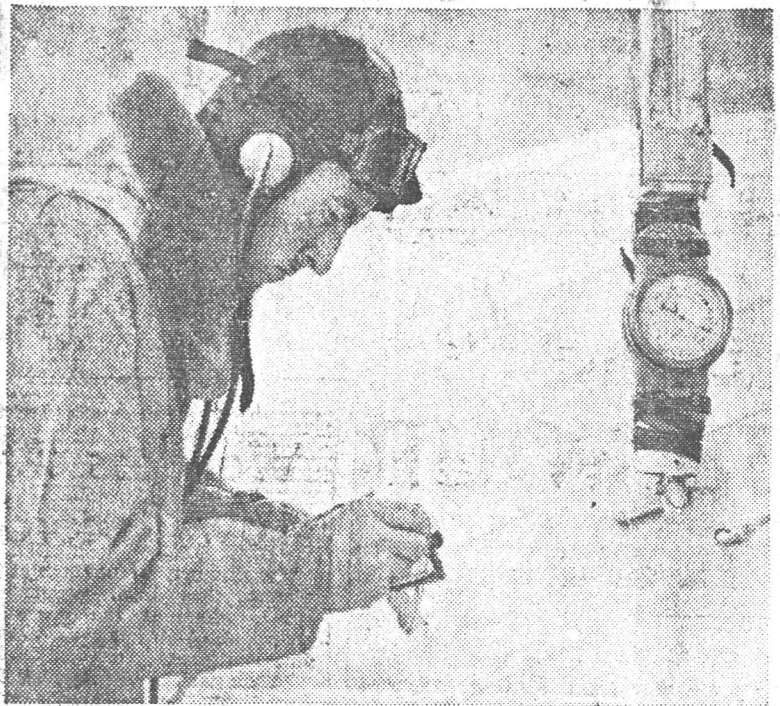
Request for Inquiry

BRISBANE, Monday.

A request for an open inquiry into the conditions of the Air Force training flight in which his son was killed on Sunday was made to-day by Mr. C. G. Fallon, Queensland secretary of the Australian Workers' Union.

It was a national tragedy, Mr. Fallon said to-night, that such splendid human material as the crews of this squadron should be handling such "aerial corks." The equipment of the Air Force and the whole subject of the aerial defence of Australia should be thoroughly investigated by an expert Royal Commission.

SURVIVED AIR FORCE CRASH



ONLY SOFT GROUND—and much good luck—saved this Air Force man, Pilot Sergeant Parker, from serious injury or death when the plane he was flying crashed near Cootamundra yesterday. Parker suffered abrasions and slight concussion, and his companion, Sergeant Brockie, suffered abrasions and a probable fracture of the nose. They were flying with the ill-fated No. 1 Squadron from Laverton, to which Pilot Officer Jack Frederick Fallon, who crashed to his death, belonged. Parker's plane crashed from 150 ft., and hit ground which had previously been covered by a haystack. It bounded in the air, turning on its back.

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THE R.A.F. HAWKER DEMON, companion plane to that which crashed at Townsville last week, snapped yesterday at Connor Park airport on its return South.

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