

RAAF BUSH FIRE PATROL



RAAF BUSH FIRE PATROL at Point Cooke discussing the bush fire danger area to be patrolled yesterday. From left: F/Lt J. Craner (pilot), F/Lt J. Iveson (nav), F/Lt E. Ockeden (co-pilot), W/O M. Singleton (flight-eng), F/O J. Wilson (radio).

21.12.46

BUSHFIRE SPOTTER SYSTEM CHECK

Tests by the RAAF Lincoln bomber yesterday showed that everything was set this summer for one of the most up-to-date bushfire spotter systems in the world, an Air Force spokesman said today.

The Lincoln had checked all the radio outposts of the Forests Commission in the main fire areas and their communications with the base station at Sale. No fires were reported.

Two Liberators and two Lincolns were standing by for the first call of the "bushfire season."

26.11.47

RAAF Not Ready To Attack Fires

Any suggestion that the RAAF was ready to attack large-scale bush fires with anti-fire bombs was premature, RAAF Headquarters stated today.

The idea was still in the experimental stage, it was stated. It was by no means conclusive that the bombs would be brought into general use.

Conditions of terrain and visibility had to be completely favorable, as the effectiveness of the bombs depended very largely on accurate dropping.

RAAF fire-fighting planes had already attacked three simulated bush fires, and were planning to attack a real one soon as a further experiment.

If this experiment was successful, it seemed likely that the Liberators now employed in spotting would carry two 500lb. bombs as standard equipment.

29.1.47