



) DUTY ON WHICH ENGAGED:

) Formation flying.

) NATURE OF ACCIDENT AND STAGE OF FLIGHT:

) Interception returning to base in formation. Collision in air, 8705 struck tail plane of 8137. Both A/C successfully forced landed.

COURT OF INQUIRY, INVESTIGATING OFFICER

OR COMMANDING OFFICER'S REPORT:

DATE 27-2-42 Investigating Officer's Report.

COMPOSITION:

F.L. C.W. Gordon C.394 No. 3 S.F.T.S.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That provision be made for dual instruction of pupil pilots in flying in formation of more than three aircraft during advanced portion of training syllabus

) PRIMARY CAUSE:

) ~~Inexperience on part of pilot of #8705 in that he concentrated in watching a/c to his left and failed to keep a lookout for other a/c in a disorganized formation.~~

ACTION TAKEN:

(A) DISCIPLINARY (B) TECHNICAL (C) OTHER

Nil

Conclusion of A.I.B.

- (1) Question of formation flying has been reviewed and such practice is now limited to three aircraft
- (2) It appears that no blame may be legally placed against the officers authorizing the flight of 10 aircraft as the pilots were all advanced pupils.
- (3) From the point of view of common sense the authorizing officers seem to be completely lacking a sense of responsibility.

) SECONDARY CAUSE OR CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:

) ~~A/C 8705 lost position in formation during execution of turn.~~

CHECKED BY

DATE