



PURPOSE OF FLIGHT:

Formation practice.

NATURE OF ACCIDENT:

A/C crashed into hill in fog. Lost sight of other A/C in formation, broke off, then went hunting in 10/10ths cloud down around a mountain ridge and crashed whilst doing so.

CLASSIFICATION:

~~59. Obscure.~~

*23. Not known 23*

SECONDARY OR CONTRIBUTORY FACTORS:

TECHNICAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

*1 LCG / PCN / C ✓*

COURT OF INQUIRY OR INVESTIGATING OFFICER'S REPORT:

FINDINGS:

SUMMARY No. 2083

A/c broke away from formation and was observed by civilian witnesses circling twice in the cloud and then fly west under power at an altitude of about 350' dipping wings alternately. The mountain ridge in this area was covered by cloud for 100 ft. from the top and the a/c crossed a depression in the ridge and crashed on the west side of it 90 ft. from the top near the shore of a lake. CAUSE: Pilot's error in getting off course, then followed by a search the nature of which leaves no doubt he believed his companions were in difficulties and that he wanted to give them any possible aid.

CONCLUSIONS OF A.I.B.

Cause obscure. The a/c probably became lost after breaking from the formation. There is no evidence to indicate that he was searching for the other a/c. of

ACTION TAKEN:

the formation.

Nil