



PURPOSE OF FLIGHT:

Seq. 26 - night circuits - solo.

TECHNICAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

Nil

100/100/100/100/100

NATURE OF ACCIDENT:

Pilot was flying in circuit when weather closed in. All a/c in circuit were recalled by beacon. A/C 7087 failed to return. Wreckage and body of pilot were found 2 mile W of No. 3 runway. Examination at scene indicated that a/c had struck the ground in a spiral dive at a considerable speed.

COURT OF INQUIRY OR INVESTIGATING OFFICER'S REPORT:

FINDINGS:

SUMMARY No. 2306

CAUSE: In sudden heavy snow shower pilot failed to trust his instruments, lost control and spiralled into ground.

CONCLUSIONS OF A.I.B.

Agree with findings.

Note: A.F.T.I. T5/31 which provides with a continuous weather patrol to be flown at S.F.T.S.s during night flying and nights in the inclement weather is forecast is not complied with. In this case bad weather was forecast and later reports indicated it was approaching sooner than expected. Weather check flight was made before night flying commenced but weather patrol was not flown. Had one been base would probably have been advised of approaching weather in time to get all aircraft down safely before weather closed in.

CLASSIFICATION:

19. Bad weather.

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SECONDARY OR CONTRIBUTORY FACTORS:

21. Inability to maintain equilibrium

ACTION TAKEN: