

**ACCIDENT CLASSIFICATION**

UNIT	5 OTU Boundary Bay, B.C.		COM. W.	PL. Farm 4 mls. North Boundary Bay Airport		DATE	6-12-44		TIME	10.10		
	A/C TYPE		NO.	CRASH CAT.		H.Q. FILE	1300-HD343-1					
MITCHELL II		AD 343		"A"		S.E.	M.E.	DAY	NIGHT			
								X	X			
PERSONNEL		RANK	NUMBER	DUTY	INJURIES		SIGNAL					
SCRATCH, D.,		Sgt.	R60973	P.	KILLED		NO.	DATE				
						A244		6-12				
						D 14 (REVISED)						
						NO.	CHECKED					
						4						
						1						
ENGINE		ENGINE NUMBER (S)		HOURS FLOWN BY PILOTS								
Wright R-2600-29		P42-150782 Totally S43-22237		INST.	NIGHT	ON TYPE		TOTAL				
						DUAL	SOLO	DUAL	SOLO			
						8	100					

Not to be entered as a flying accident, but to be put on returns as a footnote.

*NATA*

COMMAND  
 MONTH  
 STAGE OF FLIGHT

FORCED LANDING  
 TAXING  
 LANDING  
 TAKE-OFF  
 FLIGHT  
 STATIONARY  
 FATAL  
 INJ.  
 DANGER

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PURPOSE OF FLIGHT:

Flight unauthorized. Pilot literally stole aircraft.

NATURE OF ACCIDENT:

On the morning of the 6th of December, 1944, (0500 hrs.) Sgt. Scratch stole A/C A.D. 343 from line, took off and for five hours flew this a/c ultimately crashing said a/c in a most dangerous manner ultimately crashing said a/c 4 miles north of Boundary Bay - a/c completely demolished.

CLASSIFICATION:

23. Not Known

*See other side.*

SECONDARY OR CONTRIBUTORY FACTORS:

42. Unauthorized Low Flying.

TECHNICAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

Nil

*12 CG/POL/PM*

COURT OF INQUIRY OR INVESTIGATING OFFICER'S REPORT:

FINDINGS:

SUMMARY No. 2526

CAUSE: The cause of this accident cannot be definitely stated. The Court considers there are 4 possible causes. See Summary 2526

RECOMMENDATIONS: Nil

REMARKS OF UNIT C.O.: See Summary 2526.

CONCLUSIONS OF A.I.B.: Agree with findings and particularly with the remarks of the Unit C.O. While the Court made a good inquiry into the actual flight and accident, yet it failed to adduce evidence ( apart from a statement by the Command Neuro-psychiatric consultant who was a member of the court) on the psychological aspect of the pilot's make up and career. Court made no recommendations.

C.I. ACCIDENTS: I agree.

ACTION TAKEN:

Nil