

Mercury (Hobart, Tas. : 1860 - 1954), Tuesday 30 March 1943, page 1

23 VICTIMS OF AIR

DISASTER

When an RAAF transport aircraft crashed near

Brisbane early on Saturday 23 service personnel, including three members of the W.A.A.A.F, were killed. There were no survivors. Two of the victims were Tasmanians. The aircraft, on a flight from Brisbane to Sydney, crashed into heavy timber shortly after tak-ing off in the darkness, and was destroyed.

Of the 23 persons killed 17 were

members of the RAAF, one was an Australian Army officer, two were US Army officers, and three were members of the W.A.A.A.F. Among those killed were:

LAC Paton —Picture

Crew: F-Offi- cer Alexander Kenn Arnold (27), Malvern (V); Sgt Joseph Hammond (29), Cannon Hill (Q); Sgt Lyle Carter Morgan (24). St an m o re (NSW); LAC Samuel Ivan Wiles (36), Bru-then (V).

W.A.A.A.F. pas- sengers: Cpl Ruth Ada Hills (19). Petersham

(NSW); Cpl Violet May Gunning (25), Heathcote (NSW); ACW Flor-ence May Jackson (25), Ryde

(NSW).

RAAF passengers: Sgt Robert Wil-liam Tylden Chisholm (26), Warbur-ton (V) LAC/Terence Joseph Kelly (36) Oakleigh. (v): LAC Charles Paton Eric Fly.

wick (V); P-Officer. Alfred Tatlock

(36), Hamilton (V); P-Officer David Andrew Blackley (31), Woodville (SA); LAC Thomas William Beckley (28), Richmond (V); LAC John Ed-ward Chinner (20), Toorak Gardens (SA) ; LAC Kenneth Owen Paton (34), New Town (T); LAC Geoffrey Frederick Waters (33). Elizabeth Bay (NSW); Sgt John Atherton (34).

Spiers Pt. (NSW).

An immediate inquiry is being held into the cause of the crash.

The Minister for Air (Mr Drake-ford) extended his deepest sympathy to all relatives and friends of those who perished in the accident.

LAC Paton was a native of Hobart, and before joining the RAAF was employed by Charles Davis Ltd. He was educated at The Friends' School. He was returning on leave to Hobart.

The son of Mr and Mrs T. J. Paton, New Town, LAC Paton leaves a wife and three children. His wife was formerly Miss Laura Barnett, daughter of Mr J. J. N. Barnett. In civil life LAC Paton was a keen lake fisherman, and was an "A" grade player of tennis and badmin-ton. He was a member of the Ubique Masonic Lodge