

From the **PARSONS SUN**

Monday, June 26, 1944

Plane Crashes Near Oswego

Believed to be RAF Trainer; Pilot Killed

Oswego – An airplane, believed to have been a RAF trainer from the Miami, OK, school, crashed and exploded on Mrs. Elsie Hansen's farm about six miles southwest of Oswego at 9 o'clock this morning, killing the pilot.

It was not learned immediately whether the plane carried one or two persons. It hit the ground with such terrific force that the engine was buried in the ground and the body of the pilot was battered and torn.

After Col. Perkins, commanding officer of the Coffeyville army airbase was informed of some of the plane's numbers by The Sun, he said it was not a plane from Coffeyville base, and he expressed the opinion it was from the RAF school at Miami. He notified Miami authorities who sent investigators to the crash scene early this afternoon.

Explosion Stirs Dust

Witnesses said the plane appeared to go into a vertical power dive with its motor roaring full blast. It hit the ground northeast of a large prominent hill that stands alone on the flat countryside, and there was a loud explosion that sent a huge cloud of dust into the air.

No one was close to the spot where the plane crashed. Those who hurried there found bits of wreckage scattered over a wide area. The plane was torn to bits so badly it was difficult to learn much about it. The engine was buried several feet in the ground.

James Tullis, farmer in that vicinity, said he saw the plane flying northeast and said it appeared to be flying erratically, apparently in distress.

Saw Plane Fall

Claude Brown, on the C. B. Fritz farm, southwest of the Hansen place, said he looked up and saw the plane headed almost straight down. He was some distance away, but he heard the explosion when it hit.

Others who saw the plane fall and heard the explosion were Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Bryant who were about a mile away. Mrs. Bryant was picking berries at the time.

Several numbers were found on pieces of wreckage, some of them on parts of the wing and others on a metal plate.

Transcribed by N.B.

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