

## R.A.A.F. PLANE CRASH AT HAZELBROOK.

### Cause Not Revealed by Evidence.

KATOOMBA, Thursday.

At the inquiry to-day into the deaths of two R.A.A.F. men, Harry Thomas Hopgood and Vincent Charles Mounterola, when a Wirraway plane crashed into a mountain at Hazelbrook on August 1, the coroner, Mr. H. J. Caton, said there was no evidence to show the actual cause of the disaster.

"I am of the opinion," he said, "that either the engine developed some trouble, or the pilot lost his bearings on account of bad visibility."

Detective V. Bowers, of Katoomba, said that, with Sergeant W. Bryant and other policemen, he went to the scene of the accident. The plane was completely destroyed by fire.

Squadron-Leader Bradshaw said that Hopgood had 250 flying hours to his credit, and was considered an average pilot.

The coroner gave a finding of accidental death.

*SYDNEY MORNING HERALD*

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