

### Wapiti Plane Damaged

31  
 Melbourne, August 3.  
 In a forced landing at Lake Corangamite, near Cressy, yesterday, a Wapiti plane piloted by two citizens' air force officers, was extensively damaged. The officers, who were uninjured, were Pilot Officers Dickson and Cunningham. The machine was returned to Point, Cooke by road. It is believed that the mishap occurred when the pilot was attempting to land through a bank of cloud.

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### WAPITI PLANE WRECKED

### Remarkable Escape of Fliers

31  
 Melbourne, August 4.  
 An unusual mishap occurred to a Wapiti plane belonging to the Royal Australian Air Force, at Colac on Sunday. It was stated that the machine had made a forced landing but it was disclosed today that the two officers of the Citizen Air Force who were flying in the machine escaped serious injury in a remarkable manner when the plane crashed into Lake Gnarpurt. The machine was in charge of Pilot Officer R. Dickson, son of Mr. Raynes Dickson, of Toorak, and it carried as passenger Pilot A. H. Cunningham, of East Malvern. The flight was made to conduct wireless telegraphy tests with an amateur.  
 From the air it was difficult to see the surface of the still water, and the machine was lower than its occupants realised. Banking steeply in a turn to the north, the bottom left-hand wing struck the water while the machine was travelling at about 105 miles an hour. The machine spun horizontally in two complete circles. The shock wrenched the engine from its mountings and the machine collapsed into the lake, where it was almost completely wrecked in three feet of water. The occupants were able to break free of the wreckage and, unstripping their parachute packs, they waded to the bank of the lake about 60 ft. away. Parts of the machine have since been salvaged.

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A5-24 August 1931 Pilot Officer R Dickson and Pilot Officer A H Cunningham uninjured, crash at Lake Corangamite, near Cressy