

## WAPITI CRASHES

### Two Hurt in Gunnery Practice Mishap

The Air Board announced today that a Wapiti machine in the course of gunnery practice at Point Cook yesterday morning failed to come out of a dive at a target, and struck the ground obliquely. The machine was considerably damaged.

The pilot, Flight-Lieut. H. T. Johnston, a Citizen Forces officer, and Sergeant V. F. Wagstaff each received facial cuts and injuries, and were admitted to Caulfield Repatriation Hospital. The injuries are not serious.

A court of inquiry has been ordered.

#### 23 MACHINES IN USE

Excluding the machine which was damaged on Sunday, 23 of the original 28 Wapitis purchased by the Australian Air Force are still in commission. The others have been damaged in the course of training, mostly of Citizen Force pilots.

In addition to the Wapitis, the Air Force has in commission 17 moths, six seagull amphibians, four bulldog fighters and two Southampton flying boats.

There has been only one fatality in the Air Force in 2½ years, and the other accidents did not result in serious injury to the personnel.

10-32

A5-36 October 1932 crash at Point Cook, Flight Lieutenant H T Johnson and Sergeant V F Wagstaff with minor injuries. Article lists RAAF aircraft in use at that time.