AUSTRALIA'S WORST AVIATION TRAGEDY

LINER CRASHES INTO DANDENONGS
EIGHTEEN DEAD; NO SURVIVORS

Mr. Hawker, M.P., a Victim

In the most appalling disaster in the history of civil aviation in Australia, eighteen persons were killed at Mt. Dandenong at 1.45 p.m. yesterday, when the Australian National Airways Douglas DC2 monoplane Kymea crashed in the worst fog known at the Dandenongs for years. There were no survivors, two of the eighteen passengers being incinerated. The plane left Adelaide yesterday morning and was 25 miles off its course when the disaster occurred. The victims were:

PLANE'S CREW
CAPTAIN A. C. WEBB, 32, married, pilot.
ALAN STEIN, about 30, first officer.
MISS ELVA JONES, 35, air hostess.
PHIL PRING, 25, of Sydney, pupil pilot, a member of the A.N.A. Flying School.

PASSENGERS
MR. T. B. HARRITY, of Thomas Hardy and Sons, Adelaide.
MR. HUGO GRAM, of G. Grum and Sons, Adelaide.
MR. STYNESS HILLSIITH, of A. Smith and Sons, Adelaide.
MR. J. S. MASSIE, solicitor, Sydney.
MR. L. W. SHIREY, solicitor, Sydney.
MR. G. W. GODDARD, accountant, Sydney.
MR. L. S. ABRAMS, K.C., Sydney.
MR. A. C. GAIN, bartender, North South Wales.
MR. G. W. LING, South Australia.
MR. and MRS. GILB, of West Australia.
MRS. E. SCHRADE, of South Australia.
MR. VAUGHAN FAYE, Adelaide.

SCENE ON MOUNTAIN SIDE

Bodies and Debris Over Wide Area

The site where the plane crashed is in a mountainous area near Mount Dandenong, in the vicinity of the town of Mount Martha, a fishing village about 20 miles south of Melbourne. About 300 yards below the crash site, the police found the remains of a body, apparently one of the passengers. The plane, which had been flying at an altitude of about 300 feet, struck a tree at the top of Mount Dandenong, and the fuselage was torn apart. The plane was carrying passengers from Melbourne to Sydney and was en route to Sydney when it crashed.

MILES OFF COURSE

Plane's Tragic Arc

SCANDALOUS OFFICIAL LAXITY

 Failure to Initiate System

A report by the government on the crash of the Australian National Airways Douglas DC2 monoplane Kymea in 1932, which killed 18 people, revealed that the authorities failed to take prompt action to prevent future accidents.

Statement By Minister

The Minister for Civil Aviation, Mr. K. E. B. Hill-Smith, announced that an investigation was being conducted into the crash of the Kymea at Mt. Dandenong, and that steps would be taken to prevent similar incidents in the future.

Air Companies Discouraged

The Air Companies' Association, representing the major airlines in Australia, expressed its deep concern at the tragedy and urged the government to take immediate action to prevent further accidents.

Lives Being Risked

The Prime Minister, Mr. H. V. Evatt, declared that the government was committed to improving safety standards in aviation and would take all necessary steps to ensure that lives were not put at risk.

The Age, Wednesday, October 30, 1939.