

# 13 die in RAF crash on hillside

FROM OUR SCOTTISH CORRESPONDENT

Glasgow, Dec. 21

An R.A.F. Shackleton aircraft with a crew of 13 crashed into a hillside about 30 miles west of Fort William today. There were no survivors.

Flying in low cloud, the long-range maritime reconnaissance aircraft, which was on a routine training exercise and had taken off from Kinloss shortly before, plunged into the hillside at the Meoble Pass, about a mile from Lochailort, Inverness-shire.

Wreckage was strewn far from the point of impact, between 1,000ft. and 1,500ft. up in the hills. The search for bodies continued into the night.

One of the crew, Pilot Officer I. C. Maclean, whose home was near Kinross, was said by a senior officer at Kinross to have been on leave and made the flight at his own request. There were also two others of the 13 who were above the normal complement.

*Our Air Correspondent writes:*

It was the third crash of this type of aircraft within seven

weeks and brought the total of men killed to 30. Last night the R.A.F. said there was no question at this stage of grounding the type. There appeared little possibility of any basic structural weakness.

The Ministry of Defence last night named the crew, all of whom were married, as:—

Squadron Leader M. C. McCallum, aged 33, of Fleet, Hampshire (pilot); Squadron Leader H. Harvey, aged 46, of Tipton, Staffordshire; Flight Lieutenant B. G. Mackie, aged 33, of Aberdeen; Flying Officer R. F. Fonseca, aged 27, of Nairobi; Flying Officer T. C. Swinney, aged 25, of Beverley, near Hull; Flying Officer D. J. Evans, aged 22, of Middlesbrough; Flying Officer J. V. Young, aged 31; Pilot Officer I. C. Maclean, of Buckie, Banffshire.

Flight-sergeant D. J. Harris, aged 30, of Axminster, Devon; Sergeant C. P. Matthews, aged 33, of Birmingham; Sergeant M. B. Bowen, aged 23, of Nottingham; Sergeant K. B. Hurry, aged 26, of Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, and Sergeant M. A. Jones, aged 27, of Cheadle Heath, Stockport.