

MINISTRY MEN FLY OUT PROBE AIR DISASTER

TWO OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND SIR MILES THOMAS, CHAIRMAN OF BOAC, ARE FLYING TO SINGAPORE TO-DAY FOR AN ON-THE-SPOT INVESTIGATION OF YESTERDAY'S CONSTELLATION CRASH WHICH KILLED ALL 31 PASSENGERS AND ONE MEMBER OF THE CREW OF NINE.

The London-bound plane somersaulted and blew up in a sheet of orange flame a few seconds after what appeared at first a normal landing at Kallang airport.

Members of the crew, who scrambled out when the nose broke away in the crash, hacked at the blazing fuselage with axes in a desperate effort to free the trapped passengers. But they were driven back as flames and smoke billowed 1,000ft into the air.

Mr. R. Petrick, an airport security officer, dragged out the badly injured stewardess, Miss Josephine Butler, 23, attractive daughter of the headmaster of Winchester Lodge School, Torquay. Her clothes were on fire.

Her fiance, engineer officer R. G. Carter, was one of the surviving crewmen. They planned to marry early next year.

Last night Miss Butler was on the danger list in Singapore Hospital. Her parents were flying to her.

SURVIVORS

The seven other survivors were all released as outpatients. They were:

The pilot, Capt. Trevor Hoyle, Buckingham Vale, Bristol; First Officer J. B. Farkins, Middle Drive, Rednal, Wores; Navigation Officer D. Rutherford, Feltham Road, Ashford, Middx.; Radio Officer C. Bullen, Merthyr Mann Road, Bridgend, Glam.; Engineer Officer R. G. Carter, Winchester Lodge School, Torquay; Engineer Officer J. S. Sar-

Late last night BOAC were still checking on the 31 passengers. Three Britons among the dead were: Mr. J. G. Huntley (travelling from Sydney to Singapore), of Ware, Herts; Mrs. G. E. Major (Sydney to London), of Birmingham; Mr. W. N. Juste, of Belfast.

gent, Stirlingale Road, Kingsway, Bath; and Steward M. J. Fernley, 20, Byron Avenue, Cranford, Middlesex.

The crewman who died was Steward B. Hebert, of New Barnet, Herts.

A BOAC statement said: "Reports so far received indicate that the aircraft undershot the runway, with the result that it overturned and caught fire immediately."

EIGHT BRITONS

A BOAC spokesman said 24 men, including one of the crew, and eight women died. The nationalities of the passengers were:

Eight United Kingdom, six New Zealanders, four Austrians, three Indonesians, two Americans, two Indians, two Dutch, one Canadian, one African, one Fijian, one

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BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

SALVAGED MAIL
AIRCRAFT CRASH
SINGAPORE 13.3.1954

Trusteel Corporation (Overseas) Ltd.,
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