

Second World War – Warner landing accident at Hooton Park in 1939

The following is from the National Archives: Air 81/4758

No. 610 (County of Chester) Squadron,
Hooton Park, Little Sutton,
Wirral, Cheshire.

19th. September 1939.

reference.,
610S/42/Air.

LANDING ACCIDENT AT HOOTON PARK - HURRICANE L2115.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the following report,
Ref. K.R.&.A.C.I's para 743 clause 6 and this units
signal A.1. dated 17th. September 1939.

Acting on instructions from the Commanding Officer,
the pilot, Flying Officer W.H.C. Warner, took off in the
above mentioned aircraft at 14-40 on September 17th., for
his first solo on this type. Having completed a left hand
circuit he approached the aerodrome from the south, with
wheels and flaps down. There was a slight easterly wind,
8 - 10 miles per hour, blowing at the time, and pilots had
been ordered to land across wind owing to this aerodrome
being too small to land Hurricanes from west to east.
There was no appreciable drift when the aircraft touched
down, but the pilot landed rather too near the western
boundary of the aerodrome where the ground, although
within the landing area, is very rough and uneven.

The aircraft did not bounce on landing, but after
running about 30 yards, the port wheel struck a hole about
nine inches deep and the undercarriage collapsed. The
aircraft nosed over and skidded along on the bent
propeller with its tail in the air at an angle of about
45 degrees until it came to rest.

The pilot was uninjured and was able to get out
without assistance. He was examined by the doctor and
later in the afternoon took off in another Hurricane
which he landed without difficulty.

The aircraft was pushed into the hangar on the collapsed
undercarriage, without incurring any further damage. Full
details of the damage incurred will be forwarded as soon
as it is ascertained.

Ref. para. 2310 clause 2 K.R. & A.C.I.'s. No court of
Inquiry is being held.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Sgd. I.R. Parker.

Squadron Leader,
Commanding No. 610 Squad

CONFIDENTIAL

From:- F/O W.H.C. Warner 610 Squadron.
To:- Officer Commanding 610 Squadron.
Date:- 17th. September 1939.
Ref:- 610S/42/Air.

Re Landing Accident at Hooton Park - 17.9.39.

Sir,

I have to report an accident while landing "Hurricane" LS115 at 1450 hours today.

At 1440 I took off in "Hurricane" LS115 for my first solo. I completed a circuit and approached the aerodrome from the south at an air speed of 85 m.p.h. with wheels and flaps down.

On reaching the aerodrome boundary I held off and touched down slightly, tail first and ran for about thirty yards. The port wheel then struck a rough patch on the aerodrome surface and folded back. The aircraft then went up on its nose and the starboard wheel folded back. The aircraft then slid along on the airscrew for about 150 yards and came to a standstill with the tailplane in the air.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W.H.C. Warner.

Flying Officer. 90344.

42
To:- O.C. 610 Squadron,
Hooton Park,
Cheshire.

Date:- 19/9/39.

Subject;- Extent of damage to Hurricane L2115 with R.R. Merlin
MK 111 No. 3569/118960 installed.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the result of the damage
to Hurricane L2115 and R.R. Merlin No. 3569/118960.

Hurricane L2115.

Undercarriage completely wrecked.
Centre section badly strained at undercarriage
attachments 26AF/30490 and 26AF/30489 Booms
Bottom for the radius rod attachments for
undercarriage badly distorted.

Recommended for repair at a maintenance unit
or makers.

R.R. Merlin 111 No. 3569/118960

Owing to airscrew striking ground, the
reduction gear requires stripping, checking
and inspecting.
Workshop tool kit not available.
Engine inspected externally and found servicable
but requires further internal inspection.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Sgd. W. Bentall W.O.

LANDING INCIDENT OF
HURRICANE K. 2115. AT
HOOTON.

BOUNDARY

BOUNDARY 100 YDS SOUTH

S

4E

2

X TOUCH DOWN.

X PORT WHEEL FOLDED
ON ROUGH GROUND.

X THE AIRCRAFT ON NOSE
STRUCK WHEEL
FOLDED.

ROCK STRIP

ROCK STRIP

FENCE

HANGAR

HANGAR

HANGAR

WATER TOWER

X AIRCRAFT
CAME TO REST

WIND DIRECTION
SPEED 8/10 M.P.H.

JH.

ACTION COPY

449.

Air Ministry, H.Q. Fighter Command,
and No.12 Group.

No. 610 Squadron.

IMMEDIATE

Received S.1.(Telegrams) 1759 hours.
17. 9. 39.

A1 17/9 Ref KR and AC1 Para 743.

- (A) Hurricane L2115
- (B) 610 Squadron
- (C) Hooton Park 17th September 1450 hours.
- (D) F/O W.H.C. Warner 90344 not injured.
- (E) N/A
- (F) Flying practice cause of accident rough
surface of aerodrome.
- (G) N/A
- (H) No

Time of Origin 1640 hours.

Copies to:-

S. of S.	D.C.A.S.	E.1.
Parly. U.S. of S.	A.C.A.S.	E.2.(2)
C.A.S.	S.7.b.	E.3.(2)
M.O.6.	S.7.d.(2) (Action)	D.A.I.
A.M.D.P.	A.M.P.	S.4. Stats.
D.G.R.D.	D.P.S.	I. of A.(Action).
D.T.D.	D. of T.	D.G.C.A.
D.D.R.D.A.	P.P.B.(1)	D.D.C.C.A.
D.D.R.D.T.	Permt.U.S. of S.	R.D.Q.N.
R.D.L.1.(C) (3).	2nd D.U.S.	C.A.P.
R.D.E.	Mr. Scott.	D.C.R.P.
D.R.M.	F.3.(g).	Inspector General.
S.8.	D. of E.	Resident Clerk.
A.M.S.O.	D.D.E.	
O.7.	T.F.2.	
D.O.R.	Sigs 1.(E).	
D. of Ops. (C.S.)		
D. of Ops.		

RECEIVED



CASUALTY
SECTION.

CASUALTY ACTION SHEET.

Name of officer WARNER
WILLIAM HENRY CROMWELL
Rank F/O Type of Commission AAF CD
Unit 610 Squadron

Date of casualty 17/9 Date and reference of report
A1 17/9

Particulars of next-of-kin SIR LIONEL A.P. WARNER (FATHER)
and any other person to YEW TREE
be informed of casualties. POPLAR ROAD
BIRKENHEAD
CHESHIRE

~~File~~
~~Verification~~
~~of particulars.~~

~~Telegram and~~
~~or letter to~~
~~N/K.~~

~~Gas Card (a)~~
~~Gas Card (c)~~

~~D/S in case~~
~~D/S of death~~

~~Air Council~~
~~letter of~~
~~sympathy.~~

Book

