



# MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

## Military Aircraft Accident Summaries

MOD LIBRARY

MAAS 18/85

ACASTAL HOUSE

20 August 1985

### AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT TO ROYAL AIR FORCE JAGUAR GR1 XX750

Date: 7 February 1984

Parent Airfield: RAF Coltishall, Norfolk

Place of Accident: Nellis Range Complex, Nevada

Crew: One Pilot

Casualties: Pilot Killed

#### CIRCUMSTANCES

1. XX750 was one of a number of Jaguars detached to Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, for a tactical training exercise. On the afternoon of 7 February 1984, it was flown as No 6 of a 6 aircraft formation on a low-level mission. The weather was excellent and the mission was uneventful until, having completed their respective attacks, the formation departed from the target area. The No 5 and No 6 aircraft were flying in tactical formation and, shortly after they had established themselves on the outbound heading, the No 5 turned to avoid a simulated ground threat. During this manoeuvre he lost sight of the No 6 and subsequently did not regain visual contact with him. After attempting to contact the No 6 on various radio frequencies without success, the No 5 alerted the range authorities and a search was started. It was discovered that XX750 had crashed and that the pilot had been killed.

#### CAUSE

2. Examination of the wreckage indicated that the aircraft had gone out of control and crashed inverted; the pilot had not attempted to eject. There was no evidence of a technical malfunction, nor was there any indication of the circumstances in which control of the aircraft might have been lost. It was possible that the pilot might have taken violent evasive action to avoid a birdstrike, but this was speculation. Despite a lengthy and detailed investigation into the crash, the cause of the accident remained undetermined.

Issued by - Public Relations  
Ministry of Defence  
Main Building  
Whitehall  
London SW1A 2HB

01-218-3253/3254 (Royal Air Force)