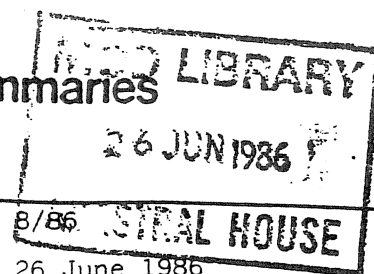




# MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

## Military Aircraft Accident Summaries



26 June 1986

### AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT TO ROYAL AIR FORCE JAGUAR GR1A XZ 365

Date:	9 July 1985
Parent Airfield:	RAF Laarbruch, Germany
Place of Accident:	20 nm South East of the Mohne-See, Germany
Crew:	One
Casualties:	One, minor injury

#### CIRCUMSTANCES

1. On the morning of 9 July 1985, the pilot of XZ 365 was flying a singleton reconnaissance training sortie. The weather was generally good but with the possibility of hill fog, valley mist and upslope stratus on high ground. Initially, the pilot flew above stratus at 1,000 ft AGL and then after a short period low-level at 500 ft AGL, he climbed to 1500 ft AGL 2,500 ft pressure altitude, above a thickening layer of stratus and mist and below a strato-cumulus layer.
2. Whilst flying between the cloud layers he noticed the radio altimeter reducing slowly from 1,500 ft to 1,300 ft. The pilot became aware that he was at the same height as the ground ahead and started a controlled climb, selecting maximum dry power and 20° nose up on the head down attitude indicator. As he looked in the head up display to check the radio altimeter height he noticed that the pitch indications showed an attitude only fractional.

above level flight. He became somewhat confused at the apparent differences in indications, cross checked head up and head down 2 or 3 times and then selected full reheat to convert his climb into a full low-level, bad weather abort, as he did this the aircraft flew through the top of trees on high ground shrouded in cloud. The aircraft began to disintegrate and burn and the pilot ejected. He was in his parachute for less than 20 seconds and landed in woodland suffering minor injuries.

#### CAUSE

3. This accident resulted from the pilot taking late and inappropriate action to avoid bad weather; disorientation due to conflicting attitude indications was a contributing factor.

#### CLAIMS

4. A total of twelve payments have been made to eight claimants as a result of the accident. The total cost of the claims is DM 21670 (approximately £6335).

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