



FIVE ITALIANS KILLED

Lorry Crash near Swindon

Five Italians were killed, two seriously injured and 16 had lesser injuries when a three-ton lorry taking them to their work this morning crashed into a house at the junction of Ermin Street and Swindon Road.

It was just after eight o'clock, and Miss Y Driver of 175 Swindon Road, had left home a quarter of an hour before to go to work at Vickers Armstrong when the lorry driven by an English soldier, crashed into the front of her house, knocking down the front door and smashing the front window. There was no-one in the house at the time.

Army Rescuers

Men of the R.A.M.C. and R.A.S.C. companies stationed a few doors away at the Air Evacuation Station, in Swindon Road, were immediately on the scene.

They found the lorry on its side and several Italians trying to scramble out of it.

There were 23 men in the lorry at the time.

The driver of the lorry was able to walk to the M.I. Room at the Air Evacuation Station, where he received medical treatment, and the injured were taken by the R.A.M.C. ambulances to Stratton St. Margaret Hospital.

Mother's and Baby's Escape

Mrs. F.C. Rogers, living next door, was about to open her front door with her baby in her arms when she heard the crash.

"I was so shaken that for a while I could not move" she said, "Then I tried to open the door, but it had become jammed with the force of the impact and it was about five minutes before I could get it open."

A 12-year-old boy, Stanley Shute of 4 Ermin Street, who passed by on his bicycle just after the accident, told his mother how he saw one man underneath the lorry groaning and two others sitting nearby looking dazed.

The Italians were from Kingsdown Hutted Camp, from where the working parties travelled every morning to No 4 S.R.D. Stratton.

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