

received training as observers or navigator wireless operators. The Mount Gambier base was then designated as a Care and Maintenance Unit (CMU).

A few dozen personnel remained at the base during 1946. They oversaw the storage and dismantling of aircraft on behalf of the Department of Aircraft Production. This included a number of newly arrived Airspeed Oxfords.

Many of the prefabricated buildings on site were sold to the South Australian Housing Trust for use elsewhere. Two of the hangars and some other buildings were retained for the civil airport. January 1947 saw a four-day auction at the base of all kinds of remaining equipment. On 29 May 1947, the CMU was disbanded and the RAAF presence at Mount Gambier ended.



*Ryan trainer A50-2 of 2AOS after a landing accident at the Mount Gambier satellite drome on 30 June 1944. (Flight Lieutenant A George collection)*



*Airfield building at the 2AOS dispersal area, Mount Gambier, September 1944. Trainees in flying suits are preparing for their flights. (Flight Lieutenant A George collection)*



*Ansons of 2AOS at Mount Gambier in September 1944, not long before the "flap" of 9 December 1944. Most are camouflaged. (Flight Lieutenant A George collection)*