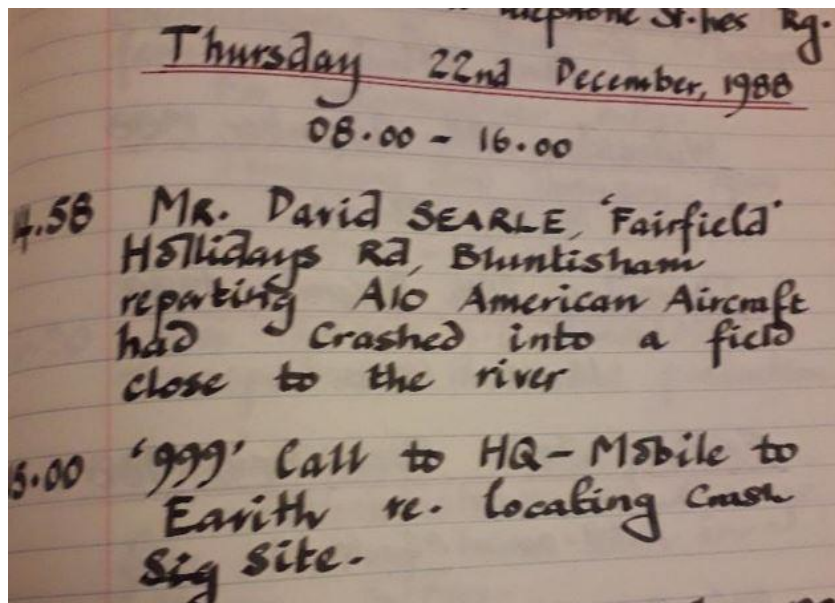


## Crash of United States Airforce A10 Tank Buster near Bluntisham 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1988

From Bluntisham Police House Diary



The crash was reported to me by David Searle, farmer and former Chair of Bluntisham Parish Council, after he jumped over the Police House fence. I had not heard the crash because of the very noisy radio gear that had been installed in my office. David pointed up at an A10 Tank Buster and said 'There were two of them'. The other plane had crashed just the other side of the Ouse opposite Bluntisham Church. I made my way via Earith Bridge and the drove and was the first officer on the scene. I reported to the Police Control Room that the pilot was walking around picking up the parachute from his ejector seat. He was picked up by a military helicopter minutes later before I could get anywhere near him. To be honest I wasn't that keen on approaching as it appeared that ammunition was being discharged into the field. Luckily it was embedded in the field and pointing downwards. PC 867 Dave Glover

Date: 22-DEC-1988  
Time:



Type: [Fairchild-Republic A-10A Thunderbolt II](#)  
Owner/operator: 81st TFW, 511th TFS, USAF  
Registration: 81-0986  
C/n / msn: A10-0681  
Fatalities: Fatalities: 0 / Occupants: 1  
Other fatalities: 0  
Airplane damage: Written off (damaged beyond repair)  
Location: Needingworth, near St. Ives, Cambridgeshire - [United Kingdom](#)  
Phase: En route  
Nature: Military  
Departure airport: RAF Woodbridge, Suffolk  
Destination airport:

Narrative:

According to "Hansard" the official record of debates in the UK Parliament: "22 December 1988 : an A-10 aircraft crashed near St. Ives, Cambridgeshire, during a routine training flight. The pilot successfully ejected."

