

Prince Denies Romance With Crash Victim

ROME, Oct. 23 (AP).—Indian Prince Shiv today denied there was anything between him and Jane Buckingham, the London model killed in a plane crash while on her way to win him away from actress Eva Bartok.

"She must have been crazy," said the handsome 27-year-old son of the Maharajah of Palitana.

"I knew Miss Buckingham. I went out with her a couple of times. But there was nothing between us. I really didn't know her very well."

Miss Bartok's press agent announced in London Monday that she and Prince Shiv were unofficially engaged and that he was on his way to Naples to get his father's permission for the marriage. Miss Buckingham told reporters the prince loved her and she him, then boarded a British airliner for Italy yesterday to intercept him.

31 Persons Dead

The four-engine turbo-prop Viscount and an Italian jet fighter collided over Anzio, killing all 31 persons aboard the British aircraft. The fighter pilot parachuted from his plane and was hospitalized in a grave and delirious condition.

The Prince, driving from London to Naples, stayed last night at a small hotel in Grosseto, on the Italian coast 90 miles northwest of Rome. He did not learn of the crash until a reporter telephoned him this morning.

He said he was shocked to learn of his former companion's death, but "we were just friends. I knew Miss Buckingham, but that's all there was to it."



PRINCE SHIV
Fought For

—AP Wirephoto

Investigation Begins

Prince Shiv refused to confirm that he and Miss Bartok planned to marry, saying "nothing has been decided." He said he was driving straight through to Naples, where his father is visiting a daughter, and would not stop in Rome to view Miss Buckingham's body.

A five-member Italian government board and officials of British European Airways today began an investigation of the crash, which occurred in



a cloudless sky over the World War II battlefield 30 miles south of Rome.

So far there was no explanation of the collision. The wreckage was scattered over a mile-square coastal area, an artillery range which was off limits to civilian flying. But the airline said the Viscount was on its approved course over the ocean.

The British pilot, Capt. Frank Foster, was an air safety expert who had specialized in the study of air collisions. He was a member of a special British committee studying ways of avoiding such disasters.

American Woman Dies

Among the victims was a honeymooning American woman, Diana Muckerman, 26, of New York City, and her British husband, Desmond Cubitt, son of a wealthy British building contractor. They had been married in London Tuesday.

Diana was the granddaughter of the late publisher, Bennett McFadden. Her mother was the former Byrnee McFadden and her father was Louis L. Muckerman, wealthy businessman.

Her uncle, Richard, is a former president of the old St. Louis Brown baseball team.

Cargo on the airliner included 1,000 baby chickens in crates. Thirty of them were found alive after the crash, pecking among the wreckage.

