

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198800698**

Champion 7-FC

26 January 1988

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Investigations commenced on or before 30 June 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the CEO of the Bureau in accordance with Part 2A of the Air Navigation Act 1920.

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NOTE: All air safety occurrences reported to the ATSB are categorised and recorded. For a detailed explanation on Category definitions please refer to the ATSB website at www.atsb.gov.au.

Occurrence Number: 198800698
Location: Aldinga SA
Date: 26 January 1988
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1516

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	1
Total	0	0	0	2

Aircraft Details: Champion 7-FC
Registration: VH-UEJ
Serial Number: 281
Operation Type: Private
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Aldinga SA
Departure Time: 1505
Destination: Aldinga SA

Approved for Release: 26 May 1988

Circumstances:

After take-off, the pilot was told by radio that the right main gearleg was hanging vertically (from its pivot point) beneath the belly of the aircraft. The pilot made two low passes so that an instructor could inspect the landing gear. The pilot made a normal approach, landed left wing low and endeavoured to hold the right wing up as long as possible. During the initial landing roll, the right main wheel was torn off. At about 20 knots, the right wing dropped and the exposed oleo leg scraped along the ground. The aircraft swung through 90 degrees and came to rest with the right wing-tip on the ground. Investigation revealed an apparent overload failure of the bronze weld securing the threaded collar to the lower right oleo cylinder. The weld had been defective at the time the aircraft was manufactured in 1958, however the aircraft had operated for 2100 hours before the weld had actually failed.