

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198800727**

Mooney M20-J

17 August 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.

1. The pilot incorrectly identified a noise from an unknown source as an engine or propeller malfunction.
2. Given the substantial reduction of power and the gear down selection, the aircraft was at too low an altitude to successfully complete a turn back manoeuvre.
3. The pilot was affected by fatigue.