

1. LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE

Ayr, Queensland	Height a.m.s.l. (ft) 20 feet	Date 29.8.70	Time (Local) 1715	Zone EST
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2. THE AIRCRAFT

Make and Model Beechcraft 23	Registration VH-SUN	Certificate of Airworthiness	Valid from 29.10.65	Valid to 28.10.74
Registered Owner Burdekin Valley Aero Club, P.O. Box 127, Ayr, Queensland.	Operator A.W. Zollner, Box 292, Ayr, Queensland.		Degree of damage to aircraft Substantial	
Defects discovered			Other property damaged Nil	

3. THE FLIGHT

Last or intended departure point Ayr	Time of departure 1600	Next point of intended landing Ayr	Purpose of flight Sight-seeing	Class of operation Private
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4. THE CREW

Name	Status	Age	Class of licence	Hours on type	Total hours	Degree of injury
Alfred William ZOLLNER	Pilot	48	Private	18	130	Nil

5. OTHER PERSONS (All passengers and persons injured on ground)

Name	Status	Degree of injury	Name	Status	Degree of injury
John NICHOLS	Passenger	Nil	Michael HENNESY	Passenger	Nil
Martin O'BRIEN	Passenger	Nil			

6. CONTRAVENTIONS OF REGULATIONS AND ORDERS

Regulation or Order No.	Nature of contravention

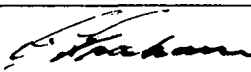
7. RELEVANT EVENTS

The limits of the movement area of the aerodrome were delineated by gable markers. The gable marker near the accident site had been broken and not replaced but the prescribed standards of markings do not require a marker in that position because of the short distance between the markers on either side. The refuelling shed was situated adjacent to the apron, but outside the movement area.

After landing the pilot turned off the runway onto the taxiway leading to the apron. He then decided to refuel the aircraft and elected to taxi directly to the refuelling shed. As the aircraft left the movement area the nosewheel dropped into a drain, leading to a pipe culvert, which was on the very edge of the movement area and was difficult to see even at close range.

8. OPINION AS TO CAUSE

The cause of the accident was that the pilot operated the aircraft outside the aerodrome movement area without taking adequate measures to ensure the safety of the operation.

Report approved  (D.S. GRAHAM)	Designation Assistant Director-General (Air Safety Investigation)	Date 20.9.71
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