

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198800111**

American Air AA-5B

19 January 1988

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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: 198800111
Location: Jandakot WA
Date: 19 January 1988
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1748 WST

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

Aircraft Details: American Air AA-5B
Registration: VH-IFL
Serial Number: AA5B-0549
Operation Type: Aerial Work
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Jandakot WA
Departure Time: 1700 WST
Destination: Jandakot WA

Approved for Release: 15 March 1988

Circumstances:

The pilot-under-check was conducting his first circuit in the aircraft as part of a conversion onto the type. On final approach he realised that he had not selected carburettor heat, and moved to apply this control. However, he inadvertently pulled out the mixture control and all engine power was lost. Both pilots tried to return the mixture control to the full rich position, but found that the control could not be moved. The approach was being conducted in strong wind conditions and the instructor assessed that the airfield was beyond safe gliding range. He took control and turned the aircraft towards a cleared area. However, the aircraft overshot this area and collided with trees before coming to rest in a ditch. Examination of the mixture control revealed that the cable had broken due to metal fatigue. However, the cause of this fatigue was not positively determined.