

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198701463**

Sapphire

5 December 1987

Readers are advised that the Australian Transport Safety Bureau investigates for the sole purpose of enhancing transport safety. Consequently, Bureau reports are confined to matters of safety significance and may be misleading if used for any other purposes.

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.

Investigations commenced after 1 July 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the CEO of the Bureau in accordance with the Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003 (TSI Act). Reports released under the TSI Act are not admissible as evidence in any civil or criminal proceedings.

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: 198701463 **Occurrence Type:** Accident

Location: Bangholme (Melbourne Suburb) VIC

Date: 5 December 1987 **Time:** 1705

Highest Injury Level: Serious

Injuries:

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

Aircraft Details: Sapphire

Registration: 250052 (AUF)

Serial Number: N/A

Operation Type: Sport Aviation

Damage Level: Destroyed

Departure Point: Bangholme VIC

Departure Time: 1600 (Approx)

Destination: Bangholme VIC

Approved for Release: March 15th 1988

Circumstances:

On arrival at his destination the pilot is reported to have overflowed a house near the strip before entering a steep climb to an altitude of about 300 feet. The aircraft was then observed to enter a steep left turn and dive into the ground. The pilot received head injuries in the accident and had only limited recall of the events of the day. However, it appears likely that the aircraft was stalled during the steep turn and entered a spiral/spin from which the pilot was apparently unable to recover. This accident was not the subject of an on-site investigation.