

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
198801386**

**Piper PA 28-R180**

**13 March 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](http://www.atsb.gov.au).**

**Occurrence Number:** 198801386  
**Location:** Mildura VIC  
**Date:** 13 March 1988  
**Highest Injury Level:** Nil  
**Injuries:**

**Occurrence Type:** Accident

**Time:** 925

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>

**Aircraft Details:** Piper PA 28-R180  
**Registration:** VH-SVP  
**Serial Number:** 28R-30741  
**Operation Type:** Private  
**Damage Level:** Substantial  
**Departure Point:** Mildura VIC  
**Departure Time:** 820  
**Destination:** Mildura VIC

**Approved for Release:** 3rd June 1988

**Circumstances:**

The pilot advised that a normal touchdown was made on the mainwheels. However, shortly after the nosewheel was lowered to the runway the right gear leg collapsed. The aircraft subsequently swung off the side of the runway. There were no external witnesses and all four persons on board the aircraft reported that the landing was normal. Inspection of the aircraft showed that the right main gear leg had collapsed rearwards, consistent with the application of upward and rearward forces which exceeded the structural strength of the gear attachments. It could not be established whether the overload forces had occurred during this landing, or whether a heavy landing on a previous occasion had resulted in the weakening of the gear support structure.