

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION	AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION SUMMARY REPORT	Reference No. AS/695/1019
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1. LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE

23 miles west north west Brookton, Western Australia	Height a.m.s.l. (ft) 900 feet	Date 5.6.69	Time (Local) 1240	Zone WST
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2. THE AIRCRAFT

Make and Model Piper PA 25-235/A1 Pawnee (Two Seat)	Registration VH-TOI	Certificate of Airworthiness	Valid from 10.2.66	Valid to 9.2.75
Registered Owner Doggett Aviation and Engineering Pty. Ltd., Airport Jandakot, W.A.	Operator Doggett Aviation and Engineering Pty. Ltd., Airport Jandakot, W.A.	Degree of damage to aircraft Substantial		
		Other property damaged Nil		
Defects discovered				

3. THE FLIGHT

Last or intended departure point Kondinin	Time of departure 0815	Next point of intended landing Jandakot	Purpose of flight Agricultural Travel	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
Quentin Jeremy POWELL	Pilot	30	Commercial	85 hours	633 hours	Nil

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

Name	Status	Degree of injury	Name	Status	Degree of injury
Geoffrey CLARK	Passenger	Nil			

6. CONTRAVENTIONS OF REGULATIONS AND ORDERS


Regulation or Order No.	Nature of contravention

RELEVANT EVENTS

Due to deteriorating weather conditions ahead the pilot decided to make a precautionary landing in a paddock. He made an inspection of a paddock which appeared suitable. On touching down the aircraft bounced and floated for a considerable distance before finally touching down. The aircraft was then allowed to roll for some 400 feet without braking and the pilot then noticed a 2 inch diameter water pipe crossing the surface of the paddock. He applied firm braking but, possibly due to the damp grass surface, the brakes were not as effective as expected and the aircraft skidded for a further 220 feet. The aircraft had almost stopped when the main wheels rolled over the water pipe without damage, but the starboard wheel then dropped into a depression in the ground covered by long grass. The starboard undercarriage collapsed and damage was also caused to the starboard mainplane, flaps and one propeller blade.

8. OPINION AS TO CAUSE

The cause of the accident was that the pilot did not detect an obstruction in the landing path of the aircraft.

Report approved 	(D.S. GRAHAM)	Designation Assistant Director-General (Air Safety Investigation)	Date 22.6.1970
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DEFINITIONS

ACCIDENT - An occurrence associated with the operation of an aircraft which takes place between the time any person boards the aircraft with the intention of flight until such time as all those persons have disembarked and in which

- (a) any person suffers death or serious injury as a result of being in or upon the aircraft or by direct contact with the aircraft or anything attached to the aircraft; or
- (b) the aircraft suffers substantial damage.

FATAL INJURY - Any injury which results in death within 30 days.

SERIOUS INJURY - Any injury other than a fatal injury which

- (a) requires hospitalisation for more than 48 hours, commencing within seven days from the date the injury was received; or
- (b) results in a fracture of any bone (except simple fractures of fingers, toes or nose); or
- (c) involves lacerations which cause severe haemorrhages, nerve, muscle or tendon damage; or
- (d) involves injury to any internal organ; or
- (e) involves second or third degree burns, or any burns affecting more than five percent of the body surface.

MINOR INJURY - Any injury other than as defined under "Fatal Injury" or "Serious Injury".

DESTROYED - Consumed by fire, demolished or damaged beyond repair.

SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE - Damage or structural failure which adversely affects the structural strength, performance or flight characteristics of the aircraft and which would normally require major repair or replacement of the affected component. The following types of damage are specifically excluded: engine failure, damage limited to an engine, bent fairings or cowlings, dented skin, small punctured holes in the skin or fabric, taxi-ing damage to propeller blades, damage to tyres, engine accessories, brakes, or wingtips.

MINOR DAMAGE - Damage other than as defined under "Destroyed" or "Substantial Damage".