

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION	AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION SUMMARY REPORT	Reference No. AS/695/1029
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1. LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE

.5 miles north of Kondut, Western Australia.	Height a.m.s.l. (ft) 950 feet	Date 8.8.69	Time (Local) 1335	Zone WST
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2. THE AIRCRAFT

Make and Model Callair A9A	Registration VH-MPB	Certificate of Airworthiness	Valid from 30.6.65	Valid to 29.6.74
Registered Owner I. L. and B. Dunn, P.O. Box 75, Ballidu, W.A.	Operator Wongan-Ballidu Aviation, P.O. Box 75, Ballidu, W.A.	Degree of damage to aircraft Substantial		
		Other property damaged State Electricity Commission power lines and poles.		
Defects discovered				

3. THE FLIGHT

Last or intended departure point Ballidu	Time of departure 1325	Next point of intended landing Ballidu	Purpose of flight Agricultural Spraying	Class of operation Aerial Work
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THE CREW

Name	Status	Age	Class of licence	Hours on type	Total hours	Degree of injury
Neal Daniel WILLIAMS	Pilot	36	Commercial	119 hours	7876 hours	Nil

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

Name	Status	Degree of injury	Name	Status	Degree of injury

6. CONTRAVENTIONS OF REGULATIONS AND ORDERS

Regulation or Order No.	Nature of contravention

RELEVANT EVENTS

After receiving a sketch plan of the area to be sprayed, the pilot made an aerial inspection and noted the position of power lines. He then made nine spraying runs which involved pulling up over a power line which crossed the paddock approximately one third of the distance along the spray runs. On the tenth spray run the pilot allowed his attention to be temporarily distracted through watching a marker change to a corrected position. When he again gave his attention to the flight path he became aware that the power line was immediately ahead and at the same height as the aircraft. He attempted to climb the aircraft, but the wires became hooked on the tail wheel assembly. The aircraft decelerated rapidly and contacted the ground on the port main wheel and wingtip. The power lines did not break, but three of the wooden supporting poles were pulled to the ground.

8. OPINION AS TO CAUSE

The cause of the accident was that the pilot did not exercise the amount of care demanded when flying in the vicinity of power transmission lines.

Report approved (D.S. GRAHAM)	Designation Assistant Director-General (Air Safety Investigation)	Date 7.1.70
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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".