

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION		AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION SUMMARY REPORT		Reference No. AS/693/1024	
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1. LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE

Mount Sunday, Mansfield State Forest, Victoria	Height a.m.s.l. (ft) 3940 feet	Date 28.4.69	Time (Local) 1610	Zone EST
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2. THE AIRCRAFT

Make and Model Piper PA25-235C "Pawnee"	Registration VH-MCJ	Certificate of Airworthiness	Valid from 1.9.67	Valid to 31.8.76
Registered Owner Farmair Pty. Ltd., Tinamba, VIC.	Operator Farmair Pty. Ltd., Tinamba, VIC.		Degree of damage to aircraft Destroyed	
			Other property damaged	
Defects discovered				

3. THE FLIGHT

Last or intended departure point Delatite Station Strip	Time of departure 1520	Next point of intended landing Departure Point	Purpose of flight Aerial Seeding	Class of operation Aerial Work
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4. THE CREW

Name	Status	Age	Class of licence	Hours on type	Total hours	Degree of injury
Hans MAATSOO	Pilot	24	Commercial	2387 hours	2860 hours	Minor

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

The pilot had completed three aerial seeding flights over areas in timbered and mountainous terrain in a light northerly wind. On the fourth flight he was making runs down a slope from north-east to south-west and, after each run, was repositioning his aircraft at the top of the slope by flying a right hand circuit. At the end of one run and with only a small area to complete, the pilot decided to make a left turn and a finishing run up the slope and to leave the area by turning left again. During the final run he became aware there was insufficient space to permit the intended manoeuvre so he turned right toward a lower spur line but realised he was unlikely to clear this. The pilot operated the dump lever, the aircraft settled into the trees with full power applied and fell to the ground, coming to rest inverted.

8. OPINION AS TO CAUSE

The probable cause of the accident was that the pilot attempted to fly an unplanned flight path which was beyond the aircraft's performance capability.

Report approved (D.S. GRAHAM)	Designation Assistant Director-General (Air Safety Investigation)	Date 24.6.1970
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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".