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Aviation Safety Investigation Report 198803519

Ultralight Drifter A-503

10 July 1988

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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.

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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.

This accident was not the subject of an on-site investigation.

Occurrence Number: 198803519 Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: Mount Larcom QLD

Date: 10 July 1988 **Time:** N/K

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: Ultralight Drifter A-503

Registration: 25-2020 **Serial Number:** N/A

Operation Type: Sport Aviation **Damage Level:** Substantial

Departure Point: Mount Larcom QLD

Departure Time: N/K

Destination: Mount Larcom QLD

Approved for Release: November 1st 1988

Circumstances:

The pilot reported that the engine stopped following the failure of the ignition coil. During the subsequent approach to land, the aircraft struck a powerline before impacting the ground heavily. The pilot received a fractured vertebrae. One landing gear leg and the wooden propeller of the aircraft were damaged. The pilot stated that the powerline was difficult to see against the backdrop of the rolling hills, and that the supporting poles were situated one and a half kilometres apart and hidden behind the terrain.

Significant Factors:

The Bureau investigation has revealed that the following factors were relevant to the development of the accident

- 1. Engine ignition coil failure.
- 2. Pilot did not see the powerline during the approach.
- 3. Powerline difficult to detect and the poles were hidden behind terrain.