

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
199002000**

**Piper Pawnee PA25-150**

**28 July 1990**

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

This accident was not formally investigated by the Bureau.

**Occurrence Number:** 199002000      **Occurrence Type:** Accident  
**Location:** Lockhart Airport NSW  
**Date:** 28 July 1990      **Time:** 1230  
**Highest Injury Level:** Nil  
**Injuries:**

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

**Aircraft Details:** Piper Pawnee PA25-150  
**Registration:** VH-GAG  
**Serial Number:** 25-522  
**Operation Type:** Aerial Work  
**Damage Level:** Substantial  
**Departure Point:** Lockhart NSW  
**Departure Time:** N/A  
**Destination:** Lockhart NSW

**Approved for Release:** 29th August 1990

**Circumstances:**

The aircraft was engaged in spraying operations. Several days prior to the accident the starter motor had failed. Since then, the engine was started by hand swinging the propellor. On this occasion the pilot attempted a start with the cockpit unoccupied. The engine started and immediately accelerated to a high power setting. The parking brake was unable to prevent the aircraft from moving off and the pilot was unsuccessful in his attempts to board the aircraft. The aircraft completed a 180 degree turn, collided with a motor vehicle and then proceeded across a road where it collided with an earth bank and a tree. The pilot said he may have inadvertently bumped the throttle control to the open position whilst setting the cockpit controls prior to engine start.