

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198700757**

Grumman American AA-5

12 December 1987

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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.

Occurrence Number: 198700757

Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: "Springvale Station" SA

Date: 12 December 1987

Time: 1745

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	1
Total	0	0	0	2

Aircraft Details: Grumman American AA-5

Registration: VH-ETT

Serial Number: AA5-0282

Operation Type: Private (Pleasure)

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Springvale SA

Departure Time: 1730

Destination: Springvale SA

Approved for Release: March 14th 1988

Circumstances:

The aircraft touched down 385 metres into the 675 metre long paddock. The pilot reported that he applied the brakes but that they were ineffective. He decided that insufficient area remained for a successful go-around to be carried out and attempted to steer the aircraft through a gate. The right wing struck the gate and the aircraft turned through 190 degrees before coming to rest. The brakes were checked and found to be serviceable. The pilot stated that after touchdown he held the nosewheel on the ground and did not retract the flap. This would have had the effect of reducing the weight on the mainwheels and could have contributed to the reported brake ineffectiveness. The landing technique used by the pilot on this occasion was contrary to the technique recommended in the Pilot's/Owner's Handbook.