

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198903745**

Beechcraft 58 Baron

29 January 1989

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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: 198903745 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Mt Dore (160 km SE of Mt Isa) QLD
Date: 29 January 1989 **Time:** 925
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

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

Aircraft Details: Beechcraft 58 Baron
Registration: VH-EGM
Serial Number: TH730
Operation Type: Charter
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Mt Isa QLD
Departure Time: 0852
Destination: Mt Dore QLD

Approved for Release: 2 May 1989

Circumstances:

The pilot reported that, following landing gear retraction after takeoff, the landing gear unsafe light remained on. He reselected the gear down and obtained three green lights but the unsafe light again remained illuminated when the gear was selected up again. Suspecting that the problem was related to a microswitch, the pilot continued the flight. However, the nose gear collapsed during the landing roll. The nose gear drag brace strut connected to the landing gear strut had failed, allowing the gear leg to hang free. There was evidence that the part had been cracked for some time until it failed on gear retraction on this flight. The initial crack was induced by excessive forward load on the gear leg. However, the actual source of this load was not established. No specific inspection of that part of the aircraft was required, nor was the area easy to see during maintenance or preflight inspections. This accident was not the subject of an on-site investigation.

Significant Factors:

The following factors were considered relevant to the development of the accident

1. Fatigue crack on nose landing gear drag brace.
2. The crack was not detected during inspections of the aircraft.
3. Drag brace failed during landing gear retraction.