

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198400057**

Reims-Cessna F172-H

22 December 1984

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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.

Investigations commenced after 1 July 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the CEO of the Bureau in accordance with the Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003 (TSI Act). Reports released under the TSI Act are not admissible as evidence in any civil or criminal proceedings.

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: 198400057

Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: 3 km West of Quilpie QLD

Date: 22 December 1984

Time: 1300 (Aprx)

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: Reims-Cessna F172-H

Registration: VH-EDZ

Serial Number:

Operation Type: N/K

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Quilpie QLD

Departure Time: 1300 (Aprx)

Destination: N/K

Approved for Release: 26th March, 1985

Circumstances:

The aircraft was parked, with controls locked and doors unlocked, by the owner who retained the ignition key. Later, another person entered the aircraft and operated a number of controls before experimenting with a car key in the ignition switch. The engine started and the aircraft took off from the position at which it was parked. The occupant attempted a landing but this was unsuccessful as full power was still selected. Some time later the engine stopped due to fuel exhaustion and the aircraft glided into scrub near the town. The occupant was later apprehended by local Police. The thief had received no pilot training and was not capable of adequately controlling the aircraft.