

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198703530**

Maxair Drifter 503

3 June 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: 198703530
Location: Hungerford QLD
Date: 3 June 1987
Highest Injury Level: Fatal
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 825

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

Aircraft Details: Maxair Drifter 503
Registration: Not Registered
Serial Number: N/K
Operation Type: Miscellaneous (Sport Aviation)
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Hungerford QLD
Departure Time: 0825
Destination: Hungerford QLD

Approved for Release: December 2nd 1987

Circumstances:

The pilot had flown the aircraft to Hungerford to attend a Field Day. The following morning he adjusted the aircraft brakes and apparently decided to take the aircraft for a test flight. After taking off from the local racecourse, the aircraft climbed to about 150 feet above the ground before descending to fly just above the tops of the trees. The flight continued at this altitude until the aircraft struck a single wire power line and spun to the ground. The pilot had discussed the presence of the wire with the owner of the aircraft prior to taking off. However, the wire was of small gauge and not easily discernible from the air.