

Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198602333

Beech 95/B55 Baron

30 June 1986

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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:	198602333		Occurrence Type: Accident	
Location:	Ballina NSW			
Date:	30 June 1986		Time: N/A	
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: Beech 95/B55 Baron
Registration: VH-APL
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Private (Business)
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Ballina NSW
Departure Time: N/A
Destination: Archerfield QLD

Approved for Release: November 20th 1986

Circumstances:

During the take-off roll the aircraft had reached a speed of about 85 knots when the left engine suddenly lost power. The pilot immediately closed both throttles and applied braking, but was unable to prevent the aircraft over-running the 900 metre strip. The landing gear was torn out before the aircraft came to rest. Initial investigation revealed that the take-off attempt had been made with the fuel tanks selected to the auxiliary positions, and these tanks were about one quarter full. It is probable that the fuel ports became uncovered as a result of the take-off acceleration, allowing the ingestion of air to the fuel system. The pilot normally followed a written checklist, but had omitted to use it on this occasion. After checking the fuel system during the before take-off vital actions, he had inadvertently left the fuel selectors on the auxiliary positions.