1

Aviation Safety Investigation Report 198702439

Piper PA22-150

15 November 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: 198702439 Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: Barooga NSW

Date: 15 November 1987 **Time:** 1830

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	2
Total	0	0	0	3

Aircraft Details: Piper PA22-150 **Registration:** VH-AUX

Serial Number: N/K

Operation Type: Private(Pleasure)
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Barooga NSW

Departure Time: N/A

Destination: Barooga NSW

Approved for Release: December 2nd 1987

Circumstances:

The pilot had arranged to meet his son at the Barooga airstrip. Although he had overflown the strip on several occasions he had never previously operated into the strip. After arrival, he was requested to take some friends for scenic flights over the local area. On final approach, on the second of these flights, the aircraft struck powerlines which were strung across the eastern end of the strip, about 85 metres prior to the threshold. The aircraft struck the ground in a nose down attitude 25 metres beyond the powerlines and came to rest inverted. The pilot was unaware of the existence of the powerlines and had not sought the owner's approval or ascertained the strip condition and dimensions before commencing the operation. The poles supporting the powerlines were adjacent to tall trees which resulted in them being difficult to see. Also, it was late afternoon and the approach was being conducted into the west.