Aviation Safety Investigation Report 198602303

Piper PA36-375

17 January 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 <u>www.atsb.gov.au</u>.

Occurrence Number: Location: Date: Highest Injury Level: Injuries:		8 km NE Coleambally NSW 17 January 1986			Occurrence Type: Accident Time: 0930 aprx	
injuries:		Crew Ground Passenger Total	Fatal 0 0 0 0 0	Serious 0 0 0 0 0	Minor 1 0 0 0	None 1 - 0 1
Aircraft Details: Registration: Serial Number: Operation Type: Damage Level: Departure Point: Departure Time: Destination:	VH-OON Aerial Work (Agricultural Spreading) Substantial 8 km NE Coleambally NSW					

Approved for Release: May 5th 1986

Circumstances:

During the take-off run the right gear leg failed. The aircraft had just passed through a soft patch of ground then run over a grass tussock. The severed section of the leg punctured the right wing and dented the tailplane as the aircraft slid to a halt. A subsequent metallurgical examination found that the leg fractured because of the growth to critical size of a fatigue crack. The fatigue had originated in small surface imperfections caused by corrosion pitting.