

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
198600713**

**Piper PA32-260**

**31 October 1986**

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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.

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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](http://www.atsb.gov.au).**

**Occurrence Number:** 198600713  
**Location:** Robe SA  
**Date:** 31 October 1986  
**Highest Injury Level:** Nil  
**Injuries:**

**Occurrence Type:** Accident

**Time:** 1940

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>

**Aircraft Details:** Piper PA32-260  
**Registration:** VH-PYV  
**Serial Number:**  
**Operation Type:** Private (Travel)  
**Damage Level:** Substantial  
**Departure Point:** Parafield SA  
**Departure Time:** N/K  
**Destination:** Robe SA

**Approved for Release:** November 21st 1986

**Circumstances:**

Prior to the flight the pilot had an associate check that the strip was serviceable. On arrival overhead the airfield the pilot chose to land on the shorter of the two strips into a 30 knot wind. During the landing roll, as the aircraft crossed the other strip, the pilot observed that the strip had been recently hoed. The nosewheel sunk into the soft surface, the aircraft veered to the left and the nosegear leg folded rearwards. The associate did not check the condition of the strip but advised the pilot that the strip was "always okay". The pilot did not check with the owner of the strip to ascertain its status, which at the time of the accident was undergoing reconstruction. Although not required for an ALA, the owner had placed a white unserviceability cross adjacent to the windsock. The pilot reported that he did not see that marker. This accident was not the subject of an on-site investigation.