

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
198600709**

**Piper PA32-300**

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

**Occurrence Number:** 198600709

**Occurrence Type:** Accident

**Location:** 56km South of Waikerie SA

**Date:** 22 September 1986

**Time:** 757

**Highest Injury Level:** Nil

**Injuries:**

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

**Aircraft Details:** Piper PA32-300

**Registration:** VH-SBH

**Serial Number:**

**Operation Type:** Private (Ferry)

**Damage Level:** Destroyed

**Departure Point:** Traeger Farm, 6km SW of  
Lameroo SA

**Departure Time:** 0757

**Destination:** Waikerie SA

**Approved for Release:** May 4th 1987

#### **Circumstances:**

The aircraft was being flown to Waikerie for a major inspection. While the aircraft was cruising at 2500 feet enroute, the pilot stated that he smelt smoke and almost immediately noticed oil streaming over the windscreen. He closed the throttle and commenced an approach to a large paddock. The aircraft was landed without further damage. The pilot vacated the aircraft via the rear door to avoid the billowing smoke from the engine compartment and attempted to extinguish the fire with a portable fire extinguisher. On realising the attempt would be unsuccessful, he collected his luggage from the cabin of the aircraft and cleared the area. The aircraft was subsequently destroyed by fire. Inspection of the rear of the engine compartment was hampered by the degree of damage caused by the intensity of the fire. The investigation did not discover any malfunction that might have caused the fire.