

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198703498**

Grumman G164A

27 August 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: 198703498 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Dunwich, Stradbroke Island QLD
Date: 27 August 1987 **Time:** 959
Highest Injury Level: Minor
Injuries:

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

Aircraft Details: Grumman G164A
Registration: VH-PUV
Serial Number: 441
Operation Type: Aerial Work (Agricultural Spreading)
Damage Level: Destroyed
Departure Point: Dunwich QLD
Departure Time: 0959
Destination: Dunwich QLD

Approved for Release: March 10th 1988

Circumstances:

Just after takeoff, at about 40 feet above ground level, the engine began to misfire and run roughly, then failed completely. The pilot dumped the load and commenced a steep turn to the left in an attempt to land on a track behind the aircraft. During the turn he realised that the aircraft would not make the chosen area and the aircraft was stalled into the tops of the trees. After the impact it descended steeply to the ground. The pilot escaped with scratches and some bruising. Subsequent inspection of the engine found that the left magneto had become detached from its mountings because of the loss of the retaining nuts. The mount bolts of both magnetos were fitted with spring washers rather than being lockwired. When the left magneto detached it pulled and broke the right magneto switch lead. It appears that the broken lead then contacted part of the engine and grounded the right magneto, depriving the engine of an ignition source.