

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198500661**

Beech V35-MK2

2 August 1985

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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.

Occurrence Number: 198500661 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Mataranka Homestead, 7 km East of Mataranka NT
Date: 2 August 1985 **Time:** 737
Highest Injury Level: Fatal
Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	1	0	0	0
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	3	0	0	0
Total	4	0	0	0

Aircraft Details: Beech V35-MK2
Registration: VH-DYS
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Private-Travel
Damage Level: Destroyed
Departure Point: Mataranka Homestead NT
Departure Time: 0737
Destination: Tindal NT

Approved for Release: May 1st 1986

Circumstances:

The pilot was conducting an around Australia holiday with three friends. On the day of the accident he intended flying the aircraft to Tindal, a distance of about 90 kilometres, to refuel prior to departing for his Queensland destination. After the aircraft was taxied from the parking area to the threshold of the runway, witnesses reported hearing the engine being run-up. The aircraft was then observed to take-off in a north-westerly direction and climb to about 150 feet above the strip. It then entered a steady, wings level descent and collided with trees, 400 metres beyond and 100 metres to the left of the strip. The aircraft was destroyed by impact forces and the ensuing fire. The examination of the wreckage was hampered by extensive fire damage. However, with the exception of the vacuum pump, which was probably unserviceable at the time of the accident, no evidence was found to suggest that the aircraft was not capable of normal operation. There was no evidence to indicate that the pilot had suffered any sudden illness or incapacity, and the cause of the accident remains undetermined.