

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198802413**

Piper J3C-65

18 December 1988

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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: 198802413
Location: Ingleside NSW
Date: 18 December 1988
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1800

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	1
Total	0	0	0	2

Aircraft Details: Piper J3C-65
Registration: N43518
Serial Number: 9377
Operation Type: Private
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Wedderburn NSW
Departure Time: 1620
Destination: Wedderburn NSW

Approved for Release: June 27th 1989

Circumstances:

The aircraft was engaged on a coastal sightseeing flight in marginal VMC. The area was affected by a humid airflow. The pilot said the engine appeared to be affected by carburettor icing and, although he was able to restore power with carburettor heat, he was apprehensive about returning over the metropolitan area. He said he decided to make a precautionary landing on a nearby clearing. After a landing roll of about 100 metres, the landing gear struck a shallow ditch and collapsed. The aircraft slid to a halt a few metres beyond the point of impact.

Significant Factors:

The following factors were considered relevant to the development of the accident

1. Suspected carburettor icing/short term reduction in engine power.
2. Apprehension of pilot-in-command.
3. Pilot-in-command attempted landing on unsuitable area.