**Aviation Safety Investigation Report 198902563** 

**Grumman AA5B** 

28 June 1989

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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.

The accident was not formally investigated by the Bureau.

Occurrence Number: 198902563 Occurrence Type: Accident

**Location:** 8 km SE Lithgow NSW

**Date:** 28 June 1989 **Time:** 1725

Highest Injury Level: Nil

**Injuries:** 

	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: Grumman AA5B

Registration: VH-IFT
Serial Number: AA5B-0621
Operation Type: Private
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Orange NSW

**Departure Time:** 1625

**Destination:** Camden NSW

**Approved for Release:** 1st August 1991

## **Circumstances:**

During a flight from Orange to Camden, the pilot was unable to proceed beyond the Hartley Valley due to low cloud on the ranges. He attempted to return to Orange but found that route was also blocked by deteriorating weather conditions. In decreasing light, the pilot began a search and located a paddock where he conducted a precautionary landing, during which the main landing gear and wing struck a fence, causing substantial damage. The area forecast had indicated extensive areas of low cloud, with reduced visibility associated with drizzle, over the mountain ranges.