Aviation Safety Investigation Report 198602632

Cessna 172 N

02 January 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.

Occurrence Number: 198602632 Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: Agnes Waters (80 km NW Bundaberg) QLD **Date:** 02 January 1986 **Time:** 1020

Highest Injury Level: Minor

Injuries:

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

Aircraft Details: Cessna 172 N **Registration:** VH-UJS

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Private (Travel) **Damage Level:** Substantial **Departure Point:** Archerfield QLD

Departure Time: 1020

Destination: Great Keppel Island QLD

Approved for Release: 25th February, 1986

Circumstances:

The aircraft was being operated on a VFR flight and was cruising at 1500 feet above ground level. The engine suddenly began to run roughly and the rpm dropped to about half the normal setting. Emergency trouble checks failed to alleviate the problem and the pilot transmitted a Mayday call as he tracked towards a nearby strip for a precautionary landing. The approach to this strip was too high and power was applied in an attempt to go around. However, severe engine vibration occurred and the pilot was committed to a forced landing in densely forested, hilly terrain. The power loss and vibration was caused by partial separation of the exhaust valve head on one of the cylinders.