

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198304349**

Cessna 172P

20 July 1983

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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: 198304349
Location: Wiluna WA
Date: 20 July 1983
Highest Injury Level: Fatal
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1640

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

Aircraft Details: Cessna 172P
Registration: VH-WRX
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Travel
Damage Level: Destroyed
Departure Point: Wiluna WA
Departure Time: 1640
Destination: Lake Way Station WA

Approved for Release: 8th March, 1984

Circumstances:

Immediately after take-off the aircraft was seen to enter a steep climbing turn to the left. After turning through about 135 deg, and at an estimated height of 100 to 150 ft agl, the aircraft suddenly pitched nose down and lost height. The aircraft collided with a tree prior to impacting the ground in a nose-low left wing down attitude. The investigation did not reveal any mechanical faults with the aircraft that could have contributed to this accident. The pilot had been flying and working long hours and had been seen to hurry his circuit procedures in the past. On this occasion adequate flying speed was not maintained for the manoeuvre being attempted. The turn after take-off was made into the late afternoon sun and it is possible that the pilot's vision was affected by sun-glare.