## **Aviation Safety Investigation Report 198502575**

Cessna R182

**21 December 1985** 

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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 <a href="www.atsb.gov.au">www.atsb.gov.au</a>.

Occurrence Number: 198502575 Occurrence Type: Accident

**Location:** Somersby NSW

**Date:** 21 December 1985 **Time:** 1205 approx

**Highest Injury Level:** Nil

**Injuries:** 

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	5
Total	0	0	0	6

**Aircraft Details:** Cessna R182 **Registration:** VH-ITS

**Serial Number:** 

Operation Type: Private (Travel)
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Mittagong NSW
Departure Time: 1205 approx

**Destination:** Port Macquarie NSW

**Approved for Release:** August 19th 1986

## **Circumstances:**

While cruising at 3000 feet, the aircraft suddenly encountered strong turbulence. Almost immediately afterwards, the engine commenced to run roughly and the pilot was unable to maintain height. He intended to carry out a precautionary landing on a freeway, but then sighted a strip nearby and positioned the aircraft for a left circuit. He subsequently advised that he elected not to lower the landing gear because he considered that the aircraft would have rolled beyond the end of the 550 metres long sealed strip. The aircraft touched down some 350 metres beyond the threshold and slid for 134 metres before coming to rest. Investigation disclosed that the exhaust valve guide clearances in five cylinders were less than the minimum specified by the engine manufacturer. The engine power loss resulted when an exhaust valve in one cylinder became jammed in the valve guide by a build-up of carbon deposits. The loss of power occurred over unfavourable terrain, and the pilot had been committed to a downwind approach to the strip selected for the forced landing.