

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198702395**

Piper PA60

17 March 1987

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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: 198702395
Location: Armidale NSW
Date: 17 March 1987
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 834

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

Aircraft Details: Piper PA60
Registration: VH-NOA
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Charter (Freight)
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Tamworth NSW
Departure Time: 0834
Destination: Armidale NSW

Approved for Release: 17 July 1987

Circumstances:

Shortly after touchdown the left wing began to drop and the aircraft veered off the runway. It came to rest after colliding with a runway light and a culvert. Inspection revealed that the castellated nut from the left gear torque link pivot bolt was missing. This allowed the lower torque link to rotate with the wheel and separate from the upper torque link. It was evident that a split pin which should have locked the castellated nut had not been in place for a considerable time, thus allowing the nut to work loose. However, the reason the pin was not in place could not be positively established.