

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198503534**

Thorpe T18

27 September 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 www.atsb.gov.au.

Occurrence Number: 198503534
Location: Cairns QLD
Date: 27 September 1985
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1735

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	2	2
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	2

Aircraft Details: Thorpe T18
Registration: VH-ELW
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Circuit training
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Cairns QLD
Departure Time: 1735
Destination: Cairns QLD

Approved for Release: 18th October, 1985

Circumstances:

The pilot in command, who was also the owner of the aircraft, was acting as the safety pilot for the other pilot, who had only recently received training on the aircraft. This was the first occasion on which the co-pilot had flown the aircraft from the right hand seat. He flared the aircraft too high on the first circuit and was advised by the pilot in command that the flare had been commenced too early. As he attempted to reposition the aircraft closer to the runway it struck the runway heavily and bounced. The co-pilot inadvertently closed the throttle and the aircraft struck the runway in a nose down attitude. Damage was caused to the propeller, engine firewall and the landing gear.