

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198404489**

Piper PA30

29 March 1984

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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: 198404489
Location: Kalumburu WA
Date: 29 March 1984
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1655

	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 PA30
Registration: VH-TON
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Business Flight
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Kununurra WA
Departure Time: 1655
Destination: Kalumburu WA

Approved for Release: 20th August, 1984

Circumstances:

The landing gear had been selected down during descent to the destination. On arrival overhead the strip the pilot noticed some cattle on the strip. He became concerned with the onset of darkness and selected the gear up to make a quick pass to clear the cattle from the strip. The gear was selected down on downwind and the selection was again checked on final approach, but the aircraft landed without the gear being down and locked. Inspection of the aircraft revealed that the landing gear actuator motor drew excessive current due to the armature windings being badly burnt. This resulted in the landing gear circuit breaker being tripped during the retraction sequence and the gear stopping just before the fully retracted position. When the pilot selected the gear down before landing, the gear remained in its previous position. With the gear in this position, neither gear position indicator lights was illuminated.