

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
198903858**

**N/A**

**27 August 1989**

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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](http://www.atsb.gov.au).**

**Occurrence Number:** 198903858

**Occurrence Type:** Accident

**Location:** Toowoomba QLD

**Date:** 27 August 1989

**Time:** 1245

**Highest Injury Level:** Serious

**Injuries:**

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	0	0
Ground	0	1	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Aircraft Details:** N/A

**Registration:** N/A

**Serial Number:** N/A

**Operation Type:** Sport Aviation

**Damage Level:** Nil

**Departure Point:** Toowoomba QLD

**Departure Time:** N/K

**Destination:** Toowoomba QLD

**Approved for Release:** 28th November 1989

#### **Circumstances:**

The flight was arranged in order to drop three parachutists to a school fete. Winds at the time were gusting around 15 knots and there is a 20 knot limit on parachuting, with the equipment in use. Two jumpers landed successfully in the school grounds, although the second person landed heavily due to turbulence near adjacent trees. The third jumper conducted an approach similar to the others but he went too far downwind before turning to approach the landing point. When it became evident that the desired landing area could not be reached the parachutist approached for a landing amongst houses. He landed on the roof of a house but was dragged off and into a fence, sustaining spinal injuries and lacerations.

#### **Significant Factors:**

The following factors were considered relevant to the development of the accident

1. Wind strong and gusting.
2. Turbulence generated by local topography.
3. Parachutist mis-planned his approach.
4. Parachutist landed in an unsuitable area.