

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198700741**

Piper PA25-235/A1

9 August 1987

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Investigations commenced on or before 30 June 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the CEO of the Bureau in accordance with Part 2A of the Air Navigation Act 1920.

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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: 198700741
Location: Batchelor NT
Date: 9 August 1987
Highest Injury Level: Minor
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: N/A

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

Aircraft Details: Piper PA25-235/A1

Registration:

Serial Number: 25-2289

Operation Type: Aerial Work (Glider
Towing)

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Batchelor NT

Departure Time: N/A

Destination: Batchelor NT

Approved for Release: September 15th 1987

Circumstances:

Soon after lift-off, whilst tow launching a glider, the aircraft was struck by two kite-hawks. One hawk smashed the windshield and also struck the pilot in the face. The pilot released the glider and made a normal landing on the remaining runway. Although the pilot was cut about the face by the impact of the bird and broken pieces of perspex, it is considered that because he was wearing sunglasses at the time, he avoided probable serious eye damage.