

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198300080**

Piper PA 32R-300

25 December 1983

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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: 198300080

Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: Brampton Is. QLD

Date: 25 December 1983

Time: 1744

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	5
Total	0	0	0	6

Aircraft Details: Piper PA 32R-300

Registration: VH-UAM

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Travel

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Charters Towers QLD

Departure Time: 1602

Destination: Brampton Is. QLD

Approved for Release: 5th March 1985

Circumstances:

The pilot misjudged the height of the aircraft above the ground when he initiated the landing flare. Touchdown occurred at a high rate of descent and the left gear collapsed. The pilot was inexperienced. During the day he had flown for almost 8 hours in Northern Australian summer conditions. Metal fatigue in the left gear oleo casting had reduced its capacity to withstand side load stress.