

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
198600718**

**Piper PA32-R300**

**28 December 1986**

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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:** 198600718  
**Location:** Coober Pedy SA  
**Date:** 28 December 1986  
**Highest Injury Level:** Nil  
**Injuries:**

**Occurrence Type:** Accident

**Time:** 0900

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>

**Aircraft Details:** Piper PA32-R300  
**Registration:** VH-BRG  
**Serial Number:**  
**Operation Type:** Private (Business)  
**Damage Level:** Substantial  
**Departure Point:** Coober Pedy SA  
**Departure Time:** 850  
**Destination:** Alice Springs NT

**Approved for Release:** May 14th 1987

**Circumstances:**

Shortly after takeoff, the pilot discovered that the aircraft had suffered an electrical failure and he elected to return and land. On selecting the landing gear down, he advised that he felt the aircraft slow down and thought that the gear was extended. No gear position lights were available because of the electrical malfunction. During the landing flare the pilot realised that the aircraft was lower than normal, and applied full power in an attempt to go around. The aircraft settled onto the runway with the gear retracted before the power application was able to take effect. The reason for the electrical failure could not be determined. The pilot was unaware that, although the gear extension system is hydraulically actuated, the hydraulic pump is electrically operated and thus did not function following the electrical failure. This accident was not the subject of an on-site investigation.