

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198802411**

Piper PA60-601

5 December 1988

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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.

This accident was not subject to an on scene investigation.

Occurrence Number: 198802411

Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: Armidale NSW

Date: 5 December 1988

Time: 1700

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

	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 PA60-601

Registration: VH-IXA

Serial Number: 61-0476-126

Operation Type: Charter

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Glen Innes NSW

Departure Time: 1645

Destination: Armidale NSW

Approved for Release: 9 February 1989

Circumstances:

On completion of a rest period, the pilot flew the aircraft to the first destination of an afternoon bank run schedule. Pre-landing checks were completed prior to turning onto final and the landing gear was confirmed to be down and locked. Shortly after touchdown, the nose of the aircraft contacted the runway. The nose landing gear was fully retracted and the nose gear doors were closed. An inspection of the aircraft immediately following the accident revealed that the main landing gear doors were partially open and the side braces were unlocked. When electrical power was supplied the braces locked into position and the doors closed. The aircraft was then raised and the nose landing gear was observed to cycle to the down and locked position. No defect was found which could have contributed to the accident. Evidence indicated that it was likely that early in the landing roll the pilot had inadvertently selected the gear up.

Significant Factors:

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

1. The pilot probably inadvertently retracted the landing gear during the early part of the landing roll.