

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198500125**

Piper PA22-160

5 January 1985

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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: 198500125 **Occurrence Type:** Accident

Location: 2km East of Northam Aerodrome WA

Date: 5 January 1985 **Time:** 1052

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 PA22-160

Registration: VH-AMX

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Glider Towing

Damage Level: Destroyed

Departure Point: Northam WA

Departure Time: 1052

Destination: Northam WA

Approved for Release: 25th March, 1985

Circumstances:

The aircraft was on climb towing a glider when the pilot saw smoke and flames around the left rudder pedal area. The glider was released and the pilot landed the aircraft in a paddock. He abandoned the aircraft before it was destroyed by fire. Because of the severity of damage the cause of the fire could not be determined. It was established that the fire melted fuel lines in the cockpit walls and fuel released then fed the fire which completely gutted the aircraft.