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Aviation Safety Investigation Report 198404485

Piper PA28-235

21 January 1984

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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: 198404485 Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: Mundabullangana WA

Date: 21 January 1984 **Time:** 1130

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	1
Total	0	0	0	2

Aircraft Details: Piper PA28-235

Registration: VH-IMT

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Aerial Survey **Damage Level:** Substantial

Departure Point: Mundabullangana WA

Departure Time: 1000

Destination: Mundabullangana WA

Approved for Release: 25th September 1984

Circumstances:

The aircraft had been parked in a hangar and not flown for six months until the day before the accident. After landing on that occasion the pilot noticed that the airspeed indication was slow to return to read zero. The next day the pilot believed the airspeed took longer than usual to reach the normal cruise indication. When on final, with an indicated airspeed of 80 kt the stall warning light illuminated, the aircraft stalled and struck the ground. Prior to the second flight the pilot had attempted to clear the pitot/static system by blowing into the pitot tube. Inspection of the static system found evidence of a blockage by an insect nest. The blockage was in such a position that it would not have been visable during a preflight inspection.