

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199702543**

**Cessna Aircraft Company
A185E**

09 August 1997

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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: 199702543 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Branxton, (ALA)
State: NSW **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Saturday 09 August 1997
Time: 1512 hours **Time Zone** EST
Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: Cessna Aircraft Company
Aircraft Model: A185E
Aircraft Registration: VH-DGL **Serial Number:** 1851552
Type of Operation: Miscellaneous Parachute Jump
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial
Departure Point: Branxton, NSW
Departure Time: 1512 EST
Destination: Branxton. NSW

Crew Details:

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command	Commercial	11.3	274

Approved for Release: Monday, August 25, 1997

While taking off for parachute dropping operation, directional control was lost and the aircraft ground looped. The left main landing gear collapsed, substantially damaging the aircraft. All six occupants evacuated the aircraft without injury.

The pilot subsequently reported that, as take-off power was applied, the aircraft started to swing to the left. He applied right rudder to correct the swing but the aircraft then swung rapidly to the right. He was unable to counteract the swing and closed the throttle to stop the take-off. However, the left wheel ran into a culvert and was torn off before the aircraft could be stopped.

