Aviation Safety Investigation Report 199502309

Mikoyan Gurevich MIG-21UM

23 July 1995

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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.

The Bureau did not conduct an on scene investigation of this occurrence. The information presented below was obtained from information supplied to the Bureau.

Occurrence Number: 199502309 Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: Williamtown

NSW State: **Inv Category:**

Date: Sunday 23 July 1995

Time: 1250 hours Time Zone **EST**

Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: Mikoyan Gurevich

Aircraft Model: MIG-21UM

Aircraft Registration: VH-XXI **Serial Number:** 51-6905011

Type of Operation: Non-commercial Pleasure/Travel

Damage to Aircraft: Substantial

Departure Point: Williamtown NSW

Departure Time:

Williamtown NSW **Destination:**

Crew Details:

	Hours on		
Role	Class of Licence	Type Ho	urs Total
Pilot-In-Command	ATPL	16.5	20000

Approved for Release: Monday, August 28, 1995

Whilst climbing through 4,000 feet at about 400kts, the front canopy blew open and shattered but remained attached, hanging to the right side of the aircraft. The pilot reported that due to minor handling problems a minimum of 220kts approach speed was used. On touchdown the drag chute was deployed but separated from the aircraft, requiring heavy braking to be used. At about 100kts the nosewheel tyre failed and deflated. The aircraft was able to be taxiied clear of the runway and shut down.

Ground investigation revealed that the front canopy lock was not in the fully locked position, allowing the canopy to open in flight. The drag chute operation could not be faulted and it is suspected that the release button had been activated sometime prior to the flight. The button is lockwired and the lockwire was found broken. The checklist is to be amended to require this item to be checked before flight. The nose tyre probably failed as a result of the high landing speed, and heavy braking without drag chute assistance.