

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199400517**

**de Havilland Aircraft
Tiger Moth**

27 February 1994

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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: 199400517 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: 5km E Surfers Gardens
State: QLD **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Sunday 27 February 1994
Time: 1635 hours **Time Zone** EST
Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: de Havilland Aircraft
Aircraft Model: DH-82
Aircraft Registration: VH-TSG **Serial Number:** DHC78
Type of Operation: Charter Passenger
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial
Departure Point: Surfers Gardens QLD
Departure Time:
Destination: Surfers Gardens QLD

Crew Details:

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command	Commercial	1000.0	4900

Approved for Release: Tuesday, September 20, 1994

The joy-flight was proceeding northwards over the beach of Surfers Paradise and had been cruising at 500 feet for just over a minute when the engine power reduced to idle. After conducting his trouble checks and finding no way to restore power the pilot selected an area for a landing on the beach. The aircraft came to rest in shallow water after manoeuvring to avoid people on the beach.

On inspecting the engine area the pilot found that a ball joint in a push-pull rod to the carburettor throttle valve had failed, allowing the throttle to close. Further examination by the maintenance organisation revealed that a plate to which the rod was attached was shaped incorrectly. This caused the spring loaded ball joint to wear abnormally until it fell off. The engine had been overhauled 200 hours earlier.