

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
199401174**

**American Aircraft Corp  
Cheetah**

**09 May 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](http://www.atsb.gov.au).**

**Occurrence Number:** 199401174      **Occurrence Type:** Accident  
**Location:** Seaford  
**State:** VIC      **Inv Category:** 4  
**Date:** Monday 09 May 1994  
**Time:** 0746 hours      **Time Zone:** EST  
**Highest Injury Level:** None

**Aircraft Manufacturer:** American Aircraft Corp  
**Aircraft Model:** AA-5A  
**Aircraft Registration:** VH-IGK      **Serial Number:** AA5A-0797  
**Type of Operation:** Non-commercial Business  
**Damage to Aircraft:** Destroyed  
**Departure Point:** Tyabb VIC  
**Departure Time:** 0745 EST  
**Destination:** Sunbury VIC

**Crew Details:**

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on	
		Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command	Commercial	9.0	1289

**Approved for Release:** Monday, August 29, 1994

After departing Tyabb, the aircraft was climbed to 2000 feet for the short flight to Penfield. Shortly after levelling at 2000 feet the engine suffered a major power loss. The pilot performed basic emergency checks but these did not result in a resumption of engine power. An area was selected for a forced landing but on short final approach the pilot had to veer to avoid a man walking his dog. The aircraft touched down heavily, sustaining substantial damage.

After the accident the engine was successfully run in an engine test stand. No faults were found that could have explained the reason for the engine failure. Weather conditions were conducive to the formation of serious carburettor icing at any power setting and there were indications that this could have been the cause of the power loss.

**Factors**

The reason why the engine failed was not determined but the most probable cause was carburettor ice.

