

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
199402694**

**Cessna Aircraft Company  
Cardinal**

**21 September 1994**

Readers are advised that the Australian Transport Safety Bureau investigates for the sole purpose of enhancing transport safety. Consequently, Bureau reports are confined to matters of safety significance and may be misleading if used for any other purposes.

Investigations commenced on or before 30 June 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the Executive Director of the Bureau in accordance with Part 2A of the Air Navigation Act 1920.

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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).**

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

|                              |                             |                         |          |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| <b>Occurrence Number:</b>    | 199402694                   | <b>Occurrence Type:</b> | Accident |
| <b>Location:</b>             | 9km N Massacre Point        |                         |          |
| <b>State:</b>                | QLD                         | <b>Inv Category:</b>    | 4        |
| <b>Date:</b>                 | Wednesday 21 September 1994 |                         |          |
| <b>Time:</b>                 | 1611 hours                  | <b>Time Zone</b>        | EST      |
| <b>Highest Injury Level:</b> | None                        |                         |          |

|                               |                                |                       |           |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| <b>Aircraft Manufacturer:</b> | Cessna Aircraft Company        |                       |           |
| <b>Aircraft Model:</b>        | 177RG                          |                       |           |
| <b>Aircraft Registration:</b> | VH-IRO                         | <b>Serial Number:</b> | 177RG0498 |
| <b>Type of Operation:</b>     | Non-commercial Pleasure/Travel |                       |           |
| <b>Damage to Aircraft:</b>    | Destroyed                      |                       |           |
| <b>Departure Point:</b>       | Gove NT                        |                       |           |
| <b>Departure Time:</b>        |                                |                       |           |
| <b>Destination:</b>           |                                |                       |           |

**Approved for Release:** Wednesday, February 15, 1995

The pilot reported that the engine failed during cruise at 8,500 ft. The aircraft was over water and a glide towards the coast was initiated. Aircraft ditched in the Gulf of Carpentaria. Both occupants were rescued by SAR helicopter at about 2200. The aircraft wreckage was not recovered and no indication as to the cause of the engine failure could be determined.