

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199403102**

**Piper Aircraft Corp
Seminole**

16 October 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: 199403102 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Bankstown
State: NSW **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Sunday 16 October 1994
Time: 0840 hours **Time Zone** EST
Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: Piper Aircraft Corp
Aircraft Model: PA-44-180
Aircraft Registration: VH-JDF **Serial Number:** 44-7995304
Type of Operation: Instructional Other Training
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial
Departure Point: Schofields NSW
Departure Time:
Destination: Bankstown NSW

Crew Details:

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command	ATPL 2nd Class	30.0	2900

Approved for Release: Monday, May 8, 1995

On first contact with Bankstown Tower the pilot advised that he had an unsafe landing gear indication. A flypast of the tower confirmed that the nose gear was only partially extended. Emergency services were called to attend. The nose gear leg collapsed during the subsequent landing.

An inspection later revealed that the left nose gear door actuating rod had separated from its attachment ball end due to excessive wear. The rod had become jammed in the nose leg shimmy damper, thus preventing the full extension of the nose leg. During repairs to the aircraft an internal leak in the nose leg actuator was detected. This was rectified by replacing the internal seals.

In subsequent cycling tests of the landing gear system, the nose leg failed to fully extend. The hydraulic power pack was dismantled and found to have been in poor condition, to the extent that normal operation may have been compromised.