Aviation Safety Investigation Report 199301729

Piper Aircraft Corp Chieftain

10 June 1993

Aviation Safety Investigation Report 199301729

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.

Investigations commenced after 1 July 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the Executive Director of the Bureau in accordance with the Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003 (TSI Act). Reports released under the TSI Act are not admissible as evidence in any civil or criminal proceedings.

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.

Occurrence Number: 199301729 Occurrence Type: Incident

Location: King Island

State: TAS Inv Category: 4

Date: Thursday 10 June 1993

Time: 1630 hours **Time Zone** EST

Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: Piper Aircraft Corp

Aircraft Model: PA-31-350

Aircraft Registration: VH-KIJ Serial Number: 31-7405222

Type of Operation: Charter Passenger

Damage to Aircraft: Minor

Departure Point: Moorabbin VIC

Departure Time: 1545 EST

Destination: King Island TAS

Approved for Release: Monday, March 28, 1994

During the landing roll the right landing gear collapsed. The pilot reported that the indication was that the gear was locked down prior to the landing gear collapse.

Prior to this flight the aircraft had undergone maintenance which included some work on the right main landing gear. While damage to the components of the collapsed gear precluded assessment of the downlock switch settings, it is likely that incorrect adjustment of the switch allowed the hydraulic power pack to be switched off before the right main gear was properly down and locked.

As a consequence, it is probable that the aircraft was landed with the right main gear not locked down, although the cockpit indication was that the gear was locked down.