

## 1. LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE

Mount Magnet, Western Australia.	Height a.m.s.l. (ft) 1,500 feet	Date 24.7.69	Time (Local) 1122	Zone WST
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## 2. THE AIRCRAFT

Make and Model PA24/260B	Registration VH-RTF	Certificate of Airworthiness	Valid from 23.5.66	Valid to 22.5.75
Registered Owner Murchison Air Services Pty. Ltd., Perth Airport, GUILDFORD, W.A.	Operator Murchison Air Services Pty. Ltd., Perth Airport, GUILDFORD, W.A.	Degree of damage to aircraft Substantial		
Defects discovered				
Other property damaged				

## 3. THE FLIGHT

Last or intended departure point Glen Homestead	Time of departure 1056	Next point of intended landing Mount Magnet	Purpose of flight Aircraft Positioning	Class of operation Private
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## 4. THE CREW

Name	Status	Age	Class of licence	Hours on type	Total hours	Degree of injury
Keith William BELL	Pilot	26	Commercial	54 hours	2194 hours	Nil

## 5. OTHER PERSONS (All passengers and persons injured on ground)

Name	Status	Degree of injury	Name	Status	Degree of injury

## 6. CONTRAVENTIONS OF REGULATIONS AND ORDERS


Regulation or Order No.	Nature of contravention

## 7. RELEVANT EVENTS

As the speed of the aircraft was too high for the undercarriage to be lowered while downwind, the pilot waited until he was turning onto base leg before moving the undercarriage selector from the "UP" detent. Partial flap was lowered while on the base leg and full flap during an intentional long final approach. This approach had been chosen to enable the pilot to check on a suspected malfunctioning of the electrical trim actuator. No final cockpit checks, as required by the Company Operations Manual, were made during the approach. Some engine power was used throughout the approach and the landing gear warning horn did not sound before the aircraft contacted the runway with the landing gear retracted. The undercarriage selector lever was found in the "neutral" position and subsequent electrical tests of the undercarriage system proved it to be serviceable.

## 8. OPINION AS TO CAUSE

The cause of the accident was that the pilot failed to use the means available to him to ensure that the landing gear was locked down prior to landing.

Report approved 	Designation Assistant Director-General (Air Safety Investigation)	Date 21.10.69
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## DEFINITIONS

**ACCIDENT** - An occurrence associated with the operation of an aircraft which takes place between the time any person boards the aircraft with the intention of flight until such time as all those persons have disembarked and in which

- (a) any person suffers death or serious injury as a result of being in or upon the aircraft or by direct contact with the aircraft or anything attached to the aircraft; or
- (b) the aircraft suffers substantial damage.

**FATAL INJURY** - Any injury which results in death within 30 days.

**SERIOUS INJURY** - Any injury other than a fatal injury which

- (a) requires hospitalisation for more than 48 hours, commencing within seven days from the date the injury was received; or
- (b) results in a fracture of any bone (except simple fractures of fingers, toes or nose); or
- (c) involves lacerations which cause severe haemorrhages, nerve, muscle or tendon damage; or
- (d) involves injury to any internal organ; or
- (e) involves second or third degree burns, or any burns affecting more than five percent of the body surface.

**MINOR INJURY** - Any injury other than as defined under "Fatal Injury" or "Serious Injury".

**DESTROYED** - Consumed by fire, demolished or damaged beyond repair.

**SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE** - Damage or structural failure which adversely affects the structural strength, performance or flight characteristics of the aircraft and which would normally require major repair or replacement of the affected component. The following types of damage are specifically excluded: engine failure, damage limited to an engine, bent fairings or cowling, dented skin, small punctured holes in the skin or fabric, taxi-ing damage to propeller blades, damage to tyres, engine accessories, brakes, or wingtips.

**MINOR DAMAGE** - Damage other than as defined under "Destroyed" or "Substantial Damage".