

		CA18/2/3/7912			
		SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY ACCIDENT REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY			
Aircraft Registration	ZS-WWP	Date of Accident	6 February 2005	Time of Accident	1500Z
Type of Aircraft	AL-60C-4M KUDU		Type of Operation	Private	
Pilot-in-command Licence Type	Private	Age	37	Licence Valid	Yes
Pilot-in-command Flying Experience	Total Flying Hours	1088.0		Hours on Type	34.8
Last point of departure	Nelspruit Aerodrome				
Next point of intended landing	Nelspruit Aerodrome				
Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (GPS readings if possible)					
Public road 3km South of White River district.					
Meteorological Information	Fine weather conditions prevailed at the time of the accident.				
Number of people on board	1+4	No. of people injured	1+4	No. of people killed	0
Synopsis	<p>The pilot reported that after he departed from Nelspruit Aerodrome and during the flight at approximately 3400 feet AMSL, the aircraft started to sink and although the engine was producing full power, he was unable to maintain altitude. He then executed a forced landing on a tarred public road approximately 3km south of White River. On touch down, the right main undercarriage strut failed, the right wing touched the ground surface and the propeller struck the ground. The aircraft skidded for approximately 100 meters from the initial impact point before impacting the high ground on the side of the road and came to a halt facing the northerly direction.</p> <p>While the occupants were assisting each other to vacate the aircraft, they noticed fuel leakages from one of the tanks. As they tried to hurry to a safer place, fire erupted and one occupant's clothing caught fire. Although they managed to extinguish the fire on him, he suffered burns on his back. The aircraft wreckage was consumed by the post impact fire. All occupants were taken to a hospital, and the pilot and two others were discharged on the same day while the other two remained at the hospital.</p> <p>Taking into consideration that the field elevation is 3100 feet AMSL, and the pilot was flying at 3400 feet AMSL, this leaves the pilot with only 300 feet altitude above ground level. This is a very low altitude and it was not possible for the pilot to recover when the aircraft suddenly experienced downdraft.</p> <p>The last Annual Inspection was certified on 17 July 2003 at 2780.9 airframe hours. The entire aircraft was consumed by fire.</p>				
Probable Cause					
The aircraft landed hard and impacted a high ground during a forced landing due to sudden down draft on the lee side of the hill.					
<u>Contributory Factors:</u>					
Low level flying activities by the pilot in command.					
Sudden downdraft					