

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198803676**

**Fokker F27 Friendship
Augusta A109A**

6 June 1988

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Investigations commenced on or before 30 June 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the CEO 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.

Occurrence Number: 198803676
Location: Mackay Qld
Date: 6 June 1988
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Incident

Time: 1140

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	0	0
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0

Aircraft Details:	Fokker F27 Friendship	Augusta A109A
Registration:	VH-FNQ	VH-MQB
Serial Number:		
Operation Type:	Regular Public Transport	Private
Damage Level:	Nil	Nil
Departure Point:	N/A	N/A
Departure Time:		
Destination:	N/A	

Approved for Release: 9 November 1988

Circumstances:

Passengers were moving from the terminal building to the F27 past the parked helicopter. The helicopter crew were ready to start and taxi when possible. The helicopter pilot observed some of the passengers stop outside the terminal building to take some photographs so he elected to start and taxi away from the area. He felt that no danger was created. Advice from the Civil Aviation Authority indicates that the aircraft operator is responsible for the safety of its passengers between the terminal building and the aircraft and that they are not in a public area when on the tarmac.

Significant Factors:

The following factors were considered relevant to the development of the incident

1. Airline personnel did not control movement of passengers adequately.
2. Helicopter pilot made decision to taxi while passengers were on the tarmac.