

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198903790**

Hughes 269-C Helicopter

13 July 1989

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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.

This accident was not the subject of an on-site investigation.

Occurrence Number: 198903790 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Lyndhurst Station QLD
Date: 13 July 1989 **Time:** 1130
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	1
Total	0	0	0	2

Aircraft Details: Hughes 269-C Helicopter
Registration: VH-MZR
Serial Number: 1100995
Operation Type: Aerial Work
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Lyndhurst Station QLD
Departure Time: N/K
Destination: Lyndhurst Station QLD

Approved for Release: 15th September 1989

Circumstances:

The helicopter was being used to drive cattle across a creek, when one beast broke out of the herd. During an attempt to drive it back, the pilot misjudged the clearance between the main rotor disc and the foliage of a large tree. After the tree strike, the machine was still controllable to the extent that it was landed without any further damage. Post-flight inspection revealed that all three main rotor blades were damaged.

Significant Factors:

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

1. The pilot did not apply sufficient concentration to the operation of the helicopter under the prevailing conditions.
2. He misjudged the main rotor clearance from foliage.