

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198503517**

Robinson R22A

22 June 1985

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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: 198503517 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: 66 km SE of Charters Towers QLD
Date: 22 June 1985 **Time:** 1015 (Aprx)
Highest Injury Level: Serious
Injuries:

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

Aircraft Details: Robinson R22A
Registration: VH-HBL
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Private (Mustering)
Damage Level: Destroyed
Departure Point: St Pauls Station Homestead
QLD
Departure Time: 1015 (Aprx)
Destination: St Pauls Station Homestead
QLD

Approved for Release: 31st January, 1986

Circumstances:

After helping to herd cattle to a yard, the pilot turned the helicopter and accelerated away adjacent to a creek. The helicopter struck a powerline, which crossed the creek at right angles, and impacted the ground on its right side. One of the main rotor blades bounced backwards into the cabin and almost severed the pilot's right foot. The powerline was difficult to see against the background of the surrounding countryside. The pilot, who has no memory of the accident, was aware of the location of the powerline but now believes he must have temporarily forgotten about its presence.