

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198503524**

Hiller UH12E

3 August 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: 198503524
Location: Hughenden QLD
Date: 3 August 1985
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 752

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	2
Total	0	0	0	3

Aircraft Details: Hiller UH12E
Registration: VH-FFX
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Private (Ferry)
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Hughenden QLD
Departure Time: 0752
Destination: Mt Pleasant QLD

Approved for Release: 3rd February, 1986

Circumstances:

At about 400 feet agl on climb, the helicopter suffered a partial loss of engine power. The pilot decided to use the available power to carry out a landing on the airfield. At about 50 feet agl, the engine stopped and the aircraft was subsequently landed heavily, collapsing the skids. The engine had seized. An inspection revealed that the condition of the engine was consistent with that of having been operated without oil. There was no evidence of inflight oil loss or of any component failure which might have caused the loss. When the engine began to lose power the helicopter was climbing at an airspeed of 60 knots. When the engine stopped the helicopter no longer had sufficient performance to allow the successful completion of an autorotational approach.