Aviation Safety Investigation Report 199000595

Bell 47G-3B2

25 September 1990

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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 formally investigated by the Bureau.

Occurrence Number: 199000595 Occurrence Type: Accident

Location: Tin Pan Creek NT (30 km NE Jabiru)

Date: 25 September 1990 **Time:** 1300

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: Bell 47G-3B2 **Registration:** VH-SUC **Serial Number:** 6774

Operation Type: Aerial Work Damage Level: Destroyed

Departure Point: Tin Pan Creek NT

Departure Time: N/A

Destination: Megan Valley NT

Approved for Release: 4th April 1991

Circumstances:

The aircraft had reportedly been shut down for about an hour. After refuelling, the aircraft was started and the pilot noticed smoke coming from under the seat. He shut down the engine and by this time flames were seen under and around the back of the engine. The pilot grabbed a fire extinguisher and ran to another aircraft for assistance. Attempts to put out the fire were reportedly thwarted by the heat of the fire and as there was a significant quantity of ammunition on board, everyone hid behind a tree until the fire burnt out.