

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198602673**

Hughes 269 C

28 November 1986

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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: 198602673 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Scartwater Station (194 km South Townsville) QLD
Date: 28 November 1986 **Time:** N/K
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
Registration: VH-KLQ
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Private (Mustering)
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Scartwater QLD
Departure Time: N/K
Destination: Scartwater QLD

Approved for Release: November 4th 1987

Circumstances:

The pilot was conducting cattle mustering operations. Weather conditions at the time were very hot, with a 10 to 15 knot wind. The pilot advised that while flying downwind at 30 knots and 80 feet above the ground, he commenced a pedal turn to the right. After some 90 degrees the turn suddenly stopped and the aircraft sank rapidly to about 35 feet above the ground. The main and tail rotors struck trees, but the pilot was able to maintain control and fly the helicopter to a clear area, where a safe landing was made. No defect was found with the helicopter or its systems which may have contributed to the occurrence and the reason for the loss of control, reported by the pilot, was not determined. This accident was not the subject of an on-site investigation.