

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198503509**

Hughes 269C

16 April 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: 198503509 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Mount Hope (250 km West of Mackay) QLD
Date: 16 April 1985 **Time:** 1530
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 269C
Registration: VH-PHK
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Private
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Mount Hope QLD
Departure Time: 1530
Destination: Scartwater Station QLD

Approved for Release: 16th December, 1985

Circumstances:

The pilot reported that just after lift off the engine seemed to lose power. She manoeuvred the helicopter to a suitable landing area, but during the landing the main rotor blades struck a sapling. The helicopter was then repositioned to another landing site where the engine was shutdown and the damage to the main rotors noticed. An inspection of the engine revealed that the number two and four exhaust valves had been sticking and that the valve guides were out of tolerance. It is probable that the loss of engine power was a result of the exhaust valves sticking.