

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198300067**

Bell 47G-5A

24 October 1983

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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: 198300067
Location: 29 km NNE of Wando Vale QLD
Date: 24 October 1983
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident
Time: 735

	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-5A
Registration: VH-BHR
Serial Number:
Operation Type: Cattle Mustering
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Wando Vale QLD
Departure Time: 0735
Destination: 29 km NNE of Wando Vale
QLD

Approved for Release: 28th February 1984

Circumstances:

The pilot elected to conduct a practice autorotation. His initial intention was to reapply power and to discontinue the exercise before reaching the ground, but during the descent he changed his mind and decided to continue to the ground. As the pilot flared the helicopter the tail skid contacted the ground and the main rotors struck the tail boom and tail rotor shaft. The pilot chose an unfamiliar sand bar on which to practice the autorotational landing. The associated glare from such a surface and the lack of visual cues for height assessment are considered to have led the pilot to misjudge his height for the flare.