

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198700721**

Cessna 210N

8 February 1987

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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: 198700721 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: 19km South-west of Numbulwar NT
Date: 8 February 1987 **Time:** 1213
Highest Injury Level: Minor
Injuries:

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

Aircraft Details: Cessna 210N
Registration: VH-UFA
Serial Number: 210-63085
Operation Type: Aerial Work (Ferry)
Damage Level: Destroyed
Departure Point: Numbulwar NT
Departure Time: 1207
Destination: Ngukurr NT

Approved for Release: November 10th 1987

Circumstances:

The aircraft was to be ferried out of the path of an approaching cyclone. Shortly after takeoff the pilot heard a loud noise and the engine began to vibrate violently. He turned the aircraft towards the only available area and transmitted a "Mayday" call. During the turn, oil began to stream over the windscreen from the rear of the engine. The area selected for landing was about 600 metres long and surrounded by low trees. The approach was high and fast and the aircraft was still airborne as it approached the end of the area. The pilot elected to stall the aircraft into the trees. The engine crankshaft was severely damaged on the No 4 and 5 big-end journals, consistent with a loss of oil, seizure of the bearings and eventual failure of the connecting rods. An explanation for the loss of oil supply to those bearings could not be established, however, it is likely that the bearings were able to spin in their mounts which blocked off those oil feeder holes. This accident was not the subject of an on-site investigation.