

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report  
198703474**

**Hughes 269C**

**11 April 1987**

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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](http://www.atsb.gov.au).**

**Occurrence Number:** 198703474 **Occurrence Type:** Accident

**Location:** Maitland Downs, 130km NW of Cairns QLD

**Date:** 11 April 1987 **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
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>

**Aircraft Details:** Hughes 269C

**Registration:** VH-HFC

**Serial Number:**

**Operation Type:** Aerial Work-Cattle  
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**Damage Level:** Substantial

**Departure Point:** Maitland Downs QLD

**Departure Time:** N/K

**Destination:** Maitland Downs QLD

**Approved for Release:** June 24th 1987

**Circumstances:**

The pilot was attempting to bring the helicopter to a hover in the lee of a hill, but found that there was insufficient power to arrest the rate of descent. The aircraft struck the ground and rolled over. The pilot reported that the conditions were very windy. The helicopter was reported to have been operating normally prior to the accident. The pilot stated that in attempting to arrest the rate of descent he had inadvertently overpitched the rotors at an altitude from which recovery was not possible. This accident was not the subject of an on-site investigation.