## **Aviation Safety Investigation Report 198503512**

**Bell 47-G5** 

27 May 1985

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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: 198503512 Occurrence Type: Accident

**Location:** 42 km NNW of Strathmore Station QLD

**Date:** 27 May 1985 **Time:** 1020

**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:** Bell 47-G5 **Registration:** VH-AEO

**Serial Number:** 

**Operation Type:** Cattle Mustering **Damage Level:** Substantial

**Departure Point:** 148 km East of Normanton

Departure Tome: QLD
Departure Time: 1020

148 km East of Normanton

**Destination:** QLD

**Approved for Release:** 20th August, 1985

## **Circumstances:**

While flying at a slow forward speed approximately 15 feet above the trees, the helicopter suddenly yawed to the right. As the pilot was unable to correct the yaw he attempted to manoeuvre the helicopter to a clear area. The helicopter impacted the ground in a level attitude, heading rearward and rotating. Investigation revealed that all the teeth were missing from the forward short shaft rear coupling, which had failed due to lack of lubrication, and resulted in a loss of tail rotor propulsion. The coupling, which was covered by a rubber dust boot, had not received adequate daily inspections to ensure that it contained sufficient grease and was free of excessive play.