

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198702423**

Bell 47-G2

17 September 1987

Readers are advised that the Australian Transport Safety Bureau investigates for the sole purpose of enhancing transport safety. Consequently, Bureau reports are confined to matters of safety significance and may be misleading if used for any other purposes.

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.

Investigations commenced after 1 July 2003, including the publication of reports as a result of those investigations, are authorised by the CEO of the Bureau in accordance with the Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003 (TSI Act). Reports released under the TSI Act are not admissible as evidence in any civil or criminal proceedings.

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: 198702423 **Occurrence Type:** Accident

Location: Emu Park (approx 65 km W Hay) NSW

Date: 17 September 1987 **Time:** 1430

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-G2

Registration: VH-KHK

Serial Number: 2022^

Operation Type: Aerial Work (Pig Culling)

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Isy-Coed (approx 65 km W Hay) NSW

Departure Time: 1430

Destination: Isy-Coed NSW

Approved for Release: December 15th 1987

Circumstances:

The helicopter was engaged in the mustering of feral pigs for a cull. After descending the helicopter to follow the pigs into a cleared area, the pilot noticed that more power was required to fly the aircraft. The aircraft was immediately returned to base and landed, where an inspection revealed damage to the leading edge of both rotor blades. The damage was consistent with the blades striking small branches of trees. The pilot reported that neither he nor his passenger had been aware of the helicopter striking any objects.