

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198600701**

Bell 47 G5

11 July 1986

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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: 198600701

Location: 20 km SE Old Delamere NT

Date: 11 July 1986

Highest Injury Level: Nil

Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1000

	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-LEF

Serial Number:

Operation Type: Aerial Work (Mustering)

Damage Level: Substantial

Departure Point: Old Delamere NT

Departure Time: 1000

Destination: Old Delamere NT

Approved for Release: June 15th 1987

Circumstances:

During mustering activities the aircraft was operating between 50 and 80 feet above the ground, when the engine suddenly stopped. The wind at the time was a quartering tailwind, and during the attempted autorotation the aircraft struck the ground in a tail-low attitude. The tail boom was severed, the aircraft bounced, spun to the right and came to rest with the landing skids collapsed. An inspection of the engine revealed that the magneto idler shaft had sheared due to overload caused by foreign objects fouling the magneto drives. The foreign objects were identified as crankshaft flange bolts which had been incorrectly torqued at overhaul.