

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199603320**

**Grumman American Aviation Corp
Ag-Cat**

03 October 1996

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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.

The Bureau did not conduct an on scene investigation of this occurrence. The information presented below was obtained from information supplied to the Bureau.

Occurrence Number: 199603320 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: 15 km W Kerang
State: VIC **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Thursday 03 October 1996
Time: 1500 hours **Time Zone** EST
Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: Grumman American Aviation Corp
Aircraft Model: G-164B
Aircraft Registration: VH-HIT **Serial Number:** 640
Type of Operation: Commercial Fire Control
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial
Departure Point: Bael Bael Vic
Departure Time: 1500 EST
Destination: Bael Bael Vic

Crew Details:

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command		1040.0	9200

Approved for Release: Tuesday, December 10, 1996

The pilot reported that he commenced takeoff into the east with a three knot tailwind. The strip was approximately one mile long with a powerline at the eastern end which could be flown under if necessary. The aircraft was loaded with 600 lt of water and 80 lt of fuel. Half way through the takeoff the pilot decided to go under the powerline.

After lift off the pilot allowed the aircraft to climb slightly instead of keeping it low enough to pass under the powerline. He said that despite lowering the nose, the aircraft got too high to safely pass under the wire. The top wing of the aircraft hit the powerline resulting in the aircraft becoming uncontrollable. It stalled and hit the ground in a steep nose down attitude, banked to the left.