

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199300308**

**Bell Helicopter Co
47G-3B-1 Soloy**

20 February 1993

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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: 199300308 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: 7.5km NE of Woolner Station
State: NT **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Saturday 20 February 1993
Time: 0800 hours **Time Zone** CST
Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: Bell Helicopter Co
Aircraft Model: 47G-3B1
Aircraft Registration: VH-JWI **Serial Number:** 3426
Type of Operation: Commercial Aerial Mustering
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial
Departure Point: Woolner Station NT
Departure Time:
Destination: Woolner Station NT

Approved for Release: Friday, March 11, 1994

The helicopter was hovering about 30 feet over a swamp when the pilot heard a noise and the helicopter began to vibrate. The pilot flew the helicopter towards dry land but it began to rotate around the main rotor mast. A tail rotor failure procedure was carried out and the machine landed in the water.

The helicopter suffered damage to the tailboom, drive shaft, uprights and cross tubes.

Subsequent examination revealed that the tailrotor extension shaft drive pin had failed at the tailrotor gearbox.