

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199300682**

**Bell Helicopter Co
Sioux**

28 March 1993

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 Executive Director 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 Executive Director 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.

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

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|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| Occurrence Number: | 199300682 | Occurrence Type: | Accident |
| Location: | Scartwater Station, via Collinsville | | |
| State: | QLD | Inv Category: | 4 |
| Date: | Sunday 28 March 1993 | | |
| Time: | 1800 hours | Time Zone | EST |
| Highest Injury Level: | None | | |

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------|
| Aircraft Manufacturer: | Bell Helicopter Co | | |
| Aircraft Model: | 47G-4 | | |
| Aircraft Registration: | VH-NXB | Serial Number: | 3146 |
| Type of Operation: | Non-commercial Business | | |
| Damage to Aircraft: | Destroyed | | |
| Departure Point: | | | |
| Departure Time: | | | |
| Destination: | Scartwater Station QLD | | |

Approved for Release: Wednesday, July 28, 1993

The pilot reported that the helicopter's engine lost power during normal cruise flight. A forced landing was conducted into small trees resulting in the helicopter catching fire and being destroyed. Later inspection of the wreckage by an aircraft engineer revealed a hole in the crankcase caused by a connecting rod which had separated from the crankshaft.