

AS 355F1, G-BXBT

AAIB Bulletin No: 7/99 Ref: EW/G99/05/30 Category: 2.2

Aircraft Type and Registration: AS 355F1, G-BXBT

No & Type of Engines: 2 Allison 250-C20F turboshaft engines

Year of Manufacture: 1983

Date & Time (UTC): 11 May 1999 at 2100 hrs

Location: Kidlington Airfield

Type of Flight: Private (Training)

Persons on Board: Crew - 2 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Damage to landing gear. Crease damage and distortion to tailboom

Commander's Licence: Airline Transport Pilot's Licence (Helicopters) with Instructor Rating

Commander's Age: 39 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 4,468 hours (of which 361 were on type)

Last 90 days - 156 hours

Last 28 days - 63 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

During a simulated hydraulic failure, the foreign student lost yaw control as he approached the hover. The instructor took control and regained yaw control but as he did so, his hand slipped from the collective lever. The lever immediately lowered approximately three inches and, before the instructor could regain control, the helicopter descended about 6 feet and made a heavy contact with the ground.

The instructor commented that foreign students do not always relinquish control immediately when instructed. In this case, the student may still have been attempting to land the helicopter when the instructor lost his grip on the collective lever.