

**Aircraft type and registration:** Agusta Bell 206B Jet Ranger G-AZZB (light single engine helicopter)

**Year of Manufacture:** 1972

**Date and time (GMT):** 19 August 1984 at 1630 hrs

**Location:** Inglestone, Edinburgh

**Type of flight:** Commercial (positioning)

**Persons on board:** Crew — 1                      Passengers — 1

**Injuries:** Crew — minor                      Passengers — minor

**Nature of damage:** Severe damage (write-off) caused by post crash fire

**Commander's Licence:** Air Transport Pilot's Licence (Helicopters)

**Commander's Age:** 44 years

**Commander's total flying experience:** 7000 hours (of which 950 were on type)

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot, and information from the operator, repair agencies and witnesses

Throughout the afternoon of 19th August the aircraft had been making a series of pleasure and photographic flights from a landing site at the Royal Highland Show, just to the southwest of the airfield boundary of Edinburgh Airport.

Upon completion of the day's flying the pilot and one passenger, a company employee, prepared to make a short positioning flight to the operating company's main base on the airport. Start up was normal and, following take-off clearance, the aircraft was accelerated and began a normal climb until, at approximately 40 kt and 50 feet, the pilot felt the aircraft suddenly yaw and drop. The collective lever was lowered and the pilot was able to maintain heading into a field straight ahead. As the aircraft approached the ground an attempt was made to arrest the forward speed and rate of descent. The aircraft contacted the ground at low forward speed but spun to the left and rolled on to its right hand side. The passenger quickly vacated the aircraft and the pilot, having switched off the fuel flow switch, followed.

Shortly afterwards a small fire developed in the area of the jet pipe, which then died away for a period before taking hold again and becoming more severe, eventually engulfing the whole aircraft. The fire was successfully extinguished by the Airport Fire Service.

The occupants suffered minor injury — primarily cuts, bruises and shock.

The aircraft was recovered by the operating company. Company engineering staff carried out an examination of the aircraft, including the engine, main gearbox and airframe fuel system, but nothing was found which might have caused the accident.