

Aerospatiale SA341G Gazelle 1, G-OGAZ

AAIB Bulletin No: 10/99 **Ref:** EW/G99/05/18 **Category:** 2.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Aerospatiale SA341G Gazelle 1, G-OGAZ

No & Type of Engines: 1 Turbomeca Astazou 3A turboshaft engine

Year of Manufacture: 1975

Date & Time (UTC): 16 May 1999 at 1334 hrs

Location: 16 miles north of Edinburgh, Scotland

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - 3

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Damage to underside of fuselage

Commander's Licence: Airline Transport Pilot's Licence (Helicopters)

Commander's Age: 42 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 3,553 hours (of which 343 were on type)
Last 90 days - 97 hours
Last 28 days - 41 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot experienced severe vibration accompanied by loud rumbling, and the helicopter started to yaw 30° to 40° each side of heading. The engine was closed down and autorotation entered; the helicopter was landed with a high run-on speed due to the possibility of some form of tail rotor problem.

The cause was subsequently established as a failed freewheel support bearing, part number 341A35-0176-20. This bearing was lifed at 1500 flying hours, and had consumed 1383.14 hours.