

No: 10/91

Ref: EW/G91/08/11

Category: 2c

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Hughes 369D, G-BHST

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Allison 250-C20B piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1980

**Date & Time (UTC):** 9 August 1991 at 1410 hrs

**Location:** Castle Bromwich, Birmingham

**Type of Flight:** Private

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1 Passengers - None

**Injuries:** Crew - None Passengers - N/A

**Nature of Damage:** Right vertical stabiliser and glass in greenhouse

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:** 37 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 308 hours (of which 138 were on type)

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and examination by AAIB

The right vertical stabiliser fell off during flight, damaging the glass in a greenhouse. The pilot was unaware of the loss.

The vertical stabiliser was attached to the endplate of the horizontal stabiliser by four bolts. There was extensive fatigue damage to the upper and lower edges of the endplate, and the portion of the endplate carrying the anchor nuts had detached, releasing the vertical stabiliser. The photograph on the following page shows the stabiliser assembly after the accident.



HUGHES 369D, G-BHST  
SHOWING THE HORIZONTAL STABILISER AFTER THE LOSS OF THE RIGHT VERTICAL  
STABILISER