

**AAIB Bulletin No: 2/95**      **Ref: EW/G94/12/10**      **Category: 2.3**

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Bell 47G-5, G-AZMB

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Lycoming VO-435-B1A piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1961

**Date & Time (UTC):** 22 December 1994 at 1530 hrs

**Location:** Fair Oaks Airport, Chobham, Surrey

**Type of Flight:** Training

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 2      Passengers - None

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

**Nature of Damage:** Tail rotor and drive shaft damaged; tail rotor guard and rear cross tube also damaged

**Commander's Licence:** Airline Transport Pilot's Licence (Helicopter) with Night and Instructor Ratings

**Commander's Age:** 56 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 9,260 hours (of which 6,100 were on type)  
Last 90 days - 89 hours  
Last 28 days - 33 hours

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

The weather was good with no cloud, and the surface wind was light and variable. The student pilot under instruction had completed 6 hours of his Private Pilot's Licence course. After a normal start the student was hover-taxiing across the airfield to the operating area. At one point he raised the collective lever and then lowered it rapidly; before the instructor could take control the aircraft landed on the soft grass and the tail rotor struck the ground.

The instructor assessed the cause of the accident as overcontrolling by the student and late intervention by himself.