

No: 12/91

Ref: EW/G91/08/36

Category: 2c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Bell 206B Jet Ranger III, G-WOSP

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

Year of Manufacture: 1978

Date & Time (UTC): 21 August 1991 at 1400 hrs

Location: Shores of Loch Fyne, Argyllshire

Type of Flight: Commercial (aerial work)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Cracked main rotor blade and damaged windsock

Commander's Licence: Airline Transport Pilot's Licence (Helicopters)
with Instrument rating

Commander's Age: 36 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 2,616 hours (of which 437 were P1 on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot landed by a bowser parked on the shore of Loch Fyne, where the wind was light and variable, to execute a rotors running refuel. At touchdown a windsock mounted on the bowser was flying away from the aircraft (i.e. the helicopter was upwind of the windsock). The aircraft's throttle was retarded to flight idle and shortly afterwards the windsock changed direction through approximately 180°. One of the main rotor blades struck the fabric of the windsock which dragged its mounting pole into the rotor disc. The resultant impact cracked one of the rotor blade tips and the blade had to be replaced.