

Bolkow BO-105DBS-4, G-WMAA

AAIB Bulletin No: 1/2001

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Aircraft Type and Registration: Bolkow BO-105DBS-4, G-WMAA

No & Type of Engines: 2 Allison 250-C20B turboshaft engines

Year of Manufacture: 1974

Date & Time (UTC): 11 September 2000 at 2300 hrs

Location: RAF Cosford, Wolverhampton

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Minor damage to both skid cross tubes

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

Commander's Age: 43 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 7,000 hours (of which 1,370 were on type)

Last 90 days - 70 hours

Last 28 days - 25 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The helicopter was being ground run for hydraulic leak and cross over checks following some maintenance. It was then to be positioned to an operational dispersal on the airfield. Having been cleared for flight the pilot hovered the helicopter. The pilot then found that friction of the collective pitch lever was looser than had been set on the ground. He decided to move the helicopter clear of the taxiway and other waiting aircraft before reapplying the friction. As the helicopter moved forward a wasp flew into the pilot's face stinging him on the cheek below his left eye. Instinctively he moved his left hand from the collective control to swat the wasp. As he did so the helicopter descended from approximately 8 feet, landing and rotating about the left skid until the right skid made contact with the surface. After landing it was noticed that the helicopter was sitting right side low due to deformation of both landing gear cross tubes. Engineering support was requested and after inspection the helicopter was repositioned to the helipad and shutdown normally.