

No: 5/89

Ref: EW/G89/03/03

Category: 2c

**Aircraft Type
and Registration:**

Augusta Bell 206B, G-TPTR

No & Type of Engines:

1 Allison 250-C20B turboshaft engine

Year of Manufacture:

1979

Date and Time (UTC):

11 March 1989 at 1435 hrs

Location:

Nuneaton, Warwickshire

Type of Flight:

Aerial work (filming)

Persons on Board:

Crew - 1

Passengers - 1

Injuries:

Crew - None

Passengers - None

Nature of Damage:

Damaged beyond economic repair

Commander's Licence:

Airline Transport Pilot's Licence (Helicopter)

Commander's Age:

46 years

**Commander's Total
Flying Experience:**

7,367 hours(of which 1,523 were on type)

Information Source:

Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

A vehicle was being filmed, on a test track, and the helicopter was flown alongside, to the left, at 50 feet agl and 40 kt IAS. The surface wind was reported to be 240°/15 kt. Following a short period flying sideways in front of the vehicle, the commander turned right, down wind, in order to pass down the righthand side. The aircraft started to sink and, despite turning into wind and applying full power, the commander was unable arrest the sink rate. Full collective pitch was applied to cushion the touchdown, and the aircraft landed in a level attitude on very soft ground. When it came to rest, on its lefthand side, the commander shut down the engine and turned off the electrics, and both occupants, who were uninjured, vacated the aircraft.

The commander considered that a vortex ring situation may have developed, from which he had insufficient height to recover.