

AAIB Bulletin No: 12/95

Ref: EW/G95/09/19

Category: 2.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Rotorway Executive 90, G-OJCM

No & Type of Engines: 1 Rotorway RI 162 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1992

Date & Time (UTC): 25 September 1995 at 1700 hrs

Location: Whitchurch, Shropshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Main and tail rotor blades, tail boom and body panels

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence (Helicopters)

Commander's Age: 36 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 467 hours helicopter flying (of which 7 were on type)
Last 90 days - 70 hours
Last 28 days - 15 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot and co-owner of the helicopter was carrying out engine run-ups after maintenance. With the main rotor rotating at 100 % RPM he let go of the cyclic control to reach across to his right to operate the carburettor heat control. As he did so, he was watching the engine temperature and pressure gauges to check the effectiveness of the carburettor heat. At the same time he inadvertently raised the collective lever a little more. The cyclic control was tilted slightly to the right and the increase in collective was sufficient to raise the left skid and topple the helicopter sideways before the pilot noticed what was happening.