

No: 12/83

Ref: EW/G83/07/21

Aircraft type and registration: Bell 206B Jet Ranger G--BAUM (light turbine helicopter)

Year of Manufacture: 1973

Date and time (GMT): 13 July 1983 at 1530 hrs

Location: Glen Almond, Perthshire

Type of flight: Aerial work

Persons on board: Crew -- 1 Passengers --

Injuries: Crew -- 1 Passengers --

Nature of damage: Aircraft destroyed

Commander's Licence: Airline Transport Pilot's Licence -- Helicopters

Commander's Age: 34 years

Commander's total flying experience: 1034 hours (of which 934 were on type)

The helicopter was engaged in lifting, transporting and lowering a series of electrical power line wooden poles. The poles were carried one at a time on the aircraft cargo hook by a single wire cable attached to the upper end of each pole. When the aircraft came to hover with one of the poles suspended underneath, the pole bounced on the ground and, unknown to the pilot, the slack in the wire looped over the rear part of the left skid. The weight of the partially lowered pole snatched onto the skid causing an immediate and rapid roll to the left which the pilot was just able to control with full right cyclic. He applied full power to clear the helicopter away from the personnel without success. The pole which had been dragging on the ground became airborne again causing an even greater rolling moment which the pilot was unable to control. The aircraft crashed in a nose down left banked attitude. The pilot, although injured, was able to escape from the wreckage as fire enveloped the helicopter.

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