AAIB Bulletin No: 6/93 Ref: EW/G93/04/10 Category: 2c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Enstrom F-28A, G-KOLY

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming HIO-360-C1A piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1973

Date & Time (UTC): 19 April 1993 at 1910 hrs

Location: Eastbach Farm Airfield, Gloucestershire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Aircraft destroyed

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with Night rating

Commander's Age: 53 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 795 hours (80 on rotary wing and 40 on type)

Last 90 days - 7 hours Last 28 days - 4 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and

telephone enquiries by the AAIB

The helicopter had flown from its base at Goldcliff in Gwent and landed facing east on an upslope at Eastbach Farm Airfield. The landing area has short grass and a slope of approximately 3° but outside this area the slope increases markedly.

At the time of the return flight the surface wind was 220°/10 to 15 kt. Pre-flight checks were normal and, following a sloping field take off, the pilot made a left turn through 180°. As he approached on a westerly heading he applied right pedal to stop the turn, and then moved the cyclic control forward. At this stage the pilot was aware of the helicopter yawing to the right and tried to stop this movement with the application of left pedal. He was unable to stop the yaw which rapidly speeded up and so he lowered the collective control. The aircraft descended onto sloping ground, the rotors struck the ground and the aircraft rolled down the slope. The rotors and skids were destroyed and the fuselage was severed at the rear of the luggage bay.

There were no indications of mechanical failure. The pilot stated that witness marks on the centre consul suggested that the welt of his right boot became trapped against the consul edge, holding on right pedal.