

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199500469**

**Robinson Helicopter Co
R22**

21 February 1995

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NOTE: All air safety occurrences reported to the ATSB are categorised and recorded. For a detailed explanation on Category definitions please refer to the ATSB website at www.atsb.gov.au.

The Bureau did not conduct an on scene investigation of this occurrence. The information presented below was obtained from information supplied to the Bureau.

Occurrence Number: 199500469 **Occurrence Type:** Accident
Location: Kununurra Airport
State: WA **Inv Category:** 4
Date: Tuesday 21 February 1995
Time: 0935 hours **Time Zone** WST
Highest Injury Level: None

Aircraft Manufacturer: Robinson Helicopter Co
Aircraft Model: R22 BETA
Aircraft Registration: VH-JKS **Serial Number:** 0995
Type of Operation: Instructional Dual
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial
Departure Point: Valentine Falls WA
Departure Time: 0830 WST
Destination: Kununurra WA

Crew Details:

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on	
		Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command	Commercial	4000.0	8257
Student Pilot	Student	30.0	30

Approved for Release: Wednesday, May 31, 1995

The instructor and student were practising engine out landings, to touchdown, on a grassed area of the airport. On the accident approach, ground speed had been reduced to below five knots before the aircraft touched down. As the aircraft slid along on its skids they dug into the soft ground and the helicopter pitched forward until the main rotor blades struck the ground. The helicopter then rolled onto its right side.

The instructor was aware of the soft ground and was monitoring the approach carefully. Because the ground speed was low, the instructor was not expecting any problems with the landing and, as a result, he had insufficient time to take corrective action before the main rotor blades struck the ground.