



# MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

## - Military Aircraft Accident Summaries

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### AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT TO ROYAL AIR FORCE CHINOOK HC1 ZA 676

Date: 14 November 1984

Parent Airfield: RAF Odiham, Hampshire

Place of Accident: Near Micheldever, Hampshire

Crew: 1 Pilot Instructor, 2 Student Pilots,  
1 Crewman Instructor, 2 Student Crewmen,  
1 Passenger

Casualties: 2 Major Injuries

#### CIRCUMSTANCES

1. The Chinook was on a training flight which included landing and taking-off from small areas surrounded by trees. Simulated failure of one of the aircraft's 2 engines was also to be practised. After taking off from a confined area, the helicopter had started the transition into forward flight, just above the level of trees, when the pilot instructor reduced power on No 2 engine to simulate its failure. The No 1 engine should have applied compensating power automatically but it failed to respond and the aircraft was unable to maintain level flight. It descended into the trees before striking the ground and rolling over. Two of the crew sustained major injuries but were quickly flown to a local hospital by another helicopter that had been flying close to the scene of the accident.

#### CAUSE

2. Loss of power in the No 1 engine was caused by a failure in the fuel system which starved the engine of fuel at a time when the No 2 engine was producing insufficient power for flight. Subsequent trials proved that the pilot instructor had insufficient time to increase power on the No 2 engine and so fly the aircraft away before it struck the trees.

SUBSEQUENT ACTIONS

3. The aircraft was totally destroyed. All practice single-engine flying by RAF Chinook aircraft was stopped and a study was conducted to determine how single-engine training requirements could be met whilst ensuring complete safety if the other engine failed. As a result, changes have been made to single-engine training procedures and training has restarted.

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