



A00-090-7233

## SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

### ACCIDENT REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

<b>Date of Accident</b>	15/8/2000	<b>Time of Accident</b>	1140Z	
<b>Aircraft Registration</b>	<b>ZS-RCV</b>	<b>Type of Aircraft</b>	<b>Bell 206B</b>	
<b>Pilot-in-command Licence Type</b>	Commercial		<b>Licence Valid</b>	Yes
<b>Pilot-in-command Flying Experience</b>	Total Flying Hours	2 450.2	Total Hours on Type	1 878.6
<b>Type of Operation</b>	Commercial (Midrand Metropolitan Substructure)			
<b>Last point of departure</b>	Grand Central Airport			
<b>Next point of intended landing</b>	Midrand Fire Station			
<b>Location of the accident site with reference to easily defined geographical points (plus GPS readings if possible)</b>				
Tembisa				
<b>Meteorological Information</b>	Fine			
<b>Number of people on board</b>	1 + 2	<b>No. of people injured</b>	None	<b>No. of people killed</b> None
<b>Synopsis</b>	<p>The pilot accompanied by a peace officer and one passenger was engaged in a routine crime prevention patrol in the vicinity of Grand Central Airport, when they received a distress call over the crisis control radio of an ambulance crew being stoned in Tembisa.</p> <p>The helicopter crew then advised the crisis control operator that they would go directly to the area to assist the distressed ambulance crew.</p> <p>Once overhead the area, a crowd of several hundred people was spotted on the ground and a message was received that a child had been stabbed. No one knew where the child was at this point in time. The peace officer requested the pilot to descend, as he was unable to spot the injured child. They descended to height of approximately 250 feet above ground level, when the pilot felt a harsh vibration from the tail rotor, followed by a partial loss of tail rotor thrust.</p> <p>The pilot advised the two occupants that he was experiencing a problem, where after he immediately executed an emergency landing with substantially reduced power in an adjacent field. On inspection it was noticed that the tail rotor was damaged.</p> <p>No injuries were sustained by any of the occupants.</p>			
<b>Probable Cause</b>				
<p>One of the tail rotor blades (Serial No. CS 4488) sustained extensive damage during flight, when it struck a foreign object, which caused a severe tail rotor vibration.</p>				