

Safety Notice SN-16

Issued: Apr 84 Rev: Jun 94

POWER LINES ARE DEADLY

Flying into wires, cables, and other objects is by far the number one cause of fatal accidents in helicopters. Pilots must constantly be on the alert for this very real hazard.

- * Watch for the towers; you will not see the wires in time.
 - * Fly directly over the towers when crossing power lines.
 - * Allow for the smaller, usually invisible, grounding wire(s) which are well above the larger more visible wires.
 - * Constantly scan the higher terrain on either side of your flight path for towers.
 - * Always maintain at least 500 feet AGL except during take-off and landing. By always flying above 500 feet AGL, you can virtually eliminate the primary cause of fatal accidents.
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Issued: Nov 84 Rev: Feb 89; Jun 94

NEVER EXIT HELICOPTER WITH ENGINE RUNNING

Several accidents have occurred when pilots momentarily left their helicopters unattended with the engine running and rotors turning. The collective can creep up, increasing both pitch and throttle, allowing the helicopter to lift off or roll out of control.

HOLD CONTROLS WHEN BOARDING PASSENGERS

It is important to firmly grip both cyclic and throttle while loading or unloading passengers with the engine running in case they inadvertently bump the controls or slide across the throttle, rolling it open.

NEVER LAND IN TALL DRY GRASS

The engine exhaust is very hot and can easily ignite tall grass or brush. One R22 was completely destroyed by fire after a normal landing in tall grass.