

No: 6/88

Ref: EW/G88/04/13

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Airtourer T3, G-AZHT

No & Type of Engines: 1 Rolls Royce Continental O-240-A piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1969

Date and Time (UTC): 29 April 1988 at 1805 hrs

Location: Glenforsa (Mull) Airfield, Isle of Mull, Scotland

Type of Flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Substantial damage to fuselage, canopy, nosewheel and propeller

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 51 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 164 hours (of which 62 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the Pilot

The aircraft was on its third take-off in a series of touch and go circuits and was climbing at 70 kts at a height of between 50 and 100 feet agl when the engine lost power. The pilot elected to attempt a forced landing rather than to continue the flight over the sea. After closing the engine down the nose was pulled up to clear a wire fence and ditch at the end of the runway; the third stage of flap was selected and full up elevator then applied to flare for landing, but the aircraft came down heavily on all three wheels. The nose undercarriage collapsed and the aircraft somersaulted onto its back.

The pilot, who had been wearing a full harness, released himself and escaped uninjured.

An investigation into the cause of the engine failure has not yet been carried out due to difficulties in transporting the engine from the site to a maintenance organisation. The results of the engine examination will be published when they are available.