

Piper PA-34-200-2, G-BBLU

AAIB Bulletin No: 1/97 Ref: EW/G96/11/06 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Piper PA-34-200-2, G-BBLU
No & Type of Engines:	2 Lycoming IO-360-C1E6
Year of Manufacture:	1973
Date & Time (UTC):	15 November 1996 at 1153 hrs
Location:	Biggin Hill Airport, Kent
Type of Flight:	Training
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1 - Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - None - Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Damage to left propeller and left undercarriage
Commander's Licence:	Basic Commercial Pilot's Licence with IMC and Night Rating
Commander's Age:	36 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	690 hours (of which 113 were on type) Last 90 days - 119 hours Last 28 days - 30 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The crew were conducting a training exercise using Runway 21 at Biggin Hill which has a landing distance available of 1678 metres; the tarmac surface was dry. The weather was good, with no significant cloud, visibility greater than 10 km and a surface wind that was light and variable. The final landing was to be from a simulated asymmetric approach but the student pilot experienced some difficulty in placing the aircraft on the runway. The instructor took control as they were approaching the mid-point of the runway and landed the aircraft. When the brakes were applied the aircraft veered to the right and the instructor was unable to correct this track deviation since there appeared to be unequal braking with the left brake having little effect. The aircraft departed the runway and went onto the grass. After the aircraft had decelerated to a slow speed it lurched to the left as the left undercarriage collapsed. The crew, who were both uninjured, shut down the aircraft and left via the normal exits without requiring assistance from the airfield rescue services who were in attendance. The braking system was subsequently checked and found to be serviceable.