No: 6/86 Ref: 1b

Aircraft type Va

and registration:

Varga 2150A Kachina G-CHTT

No & Type of Engines

One Lycoming 0-320-A2C piston engine

Year of Manufacture:

1980

Date and time (GMT):

27 April 1986 at 1120 hrs

Location:

Friars Hale Farm, Hatherleigh, Devon

Type of flight:

Private (pleasure)

Persons on board:

Crew — 1

Passengers — 1

Injuries:

Crew — None

Passengers — None

Nature of damage:

Substantial to nose-wheel, propeller, fin, and right wing tip

**Commander's Licence:** 

Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age:

62 years

Commander's total

flying experience:

1250 hours (of which 50 were on type)

Information Source:

Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot, and a CAA

Occurrence Report

The aircraft was making a wide circuit of the pilot's farm strip. On take-off, 10 minutes earlier, the pilot states that the fuel gauges were reading one half and one quarter full. Approximately 2 miles from the strip the engine stopped and fuel pressure dropped. The emergency fuel pump was switched on and the engine restarted, but again faltered. A forced landing was made in an adjacent field but during the landing run the nosewheel sank into soft ground and the aircraft turned over.

The pilot attributes the loss of power to an error in fuel management. A witness who visited the site later reports that there was no sign of fuel in the tanks, or of fuel spillage.