

No: 9/84

Ref: EW/G84/07/31

Aircraft type and registration: Nord NC 854S G-BJLB (Light single engine fixed wing aircraft)

Year of manufacture: 1950

Date and time (GMT): 29 July 1984 at 1645 hrs

Location: Goldcliff Aerodrome, South Wales

Type of flight: Private

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — 1

Injuries: Crew — Serious Passengers — minor

Nature of damage: Right side wing spar and wheel broken off the airframe. Right horizontal stabilizer and wing tip also damaged.

Commander's Licence: Airline Transport Pilot's Licence (private privileges)

Commander's Age: 55 years

Commander's total flying experience: 15000 hours (of which $\frac{3}{4}$ hour was on type)

Information Source: Accident Report pro-forma completed by the owner.

The first of two test flights had been flown solo and had been accomplished without incident. For the second flight the aircraft owner was carried as a passenger. The weather was: no cloud, unlimited visibility, a temperature of 23°C, and a south-westerly wind of 15 kt.

An approach was flown at 50 kt with full flap and the pilot stated that the control response was normal although full nose-up trim and constant back pressure on the control column was needed. On very short finals, the speed was reduced to 43 kt ($V_s + 10$) and 1100 rpm selected. The pilot reported that as he initiated the flare all elevator control was lost and the aircraft pitched 30° down and struck the ground. The right mainwheel struck the bank of a drainage ditch causing severe damage to the aircraft and seriously injuring the pilot. The passenger suffered only minor injury and both occupants were able to climb out of the aircraft. There was no fire.