No: 11/88

Ref: EW/G88/06/17

Category: 4

Aircraft Type

and Registration:

Socata TB 20, G-OALD

No & Type of Engines:

1 Lycoming IO-540-C4D5D piston engine

Year of Manufacture:

1985

Date and Time (UTC):

24 June 1988 at 0742 hrs

Location:

Alderney Airport, Channel Islands

Type of Flight:

Private (pleasure)

Persons on Board:

Crew - 1

Passengers - 1

Injuries:

Crew - None

Passengers - None

Nature of Damage:

Starboard passenger step bent

Commander's Licence:

Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age:

46 years

Commander's Total

Flying Experience:

657 hours (of which 106 were on type)

Information Source:

Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

At 300 feet after take-off the aircraft had a complete electrical failure; the landing gear was lowered using the emergency system and cruise power was set to check performance to confirm that the gear was down.

After a normal approach the aircraft was landed on its main wheels, as the nose wheel was lowered the right main leg started to fold. The right wing was lifted and the aircraft was steered onto the grass; by turning a tightening right hand turn whilst the speed decayed the pilot was able to hold the wing off the ground until the aircraft was almost at a standstill.

Examination of the aircraft by the maintenance organisation revealed that:

The battery was completely flat and would not take a charge.

The emergency landing gear valve had two seals which were degraded and prevented the valve from working.