

No: 9/91

Ref: EW/G91/07/28

Category: 1c

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Socata TB10 Tobago, G-BNRA

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Lycoming O-360-A1AD piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1987

**Date & Time (UTC):** 20 July 1991 at 1100 hrs

**Location:** Southampton Airport, Eastleigh, Hampshire

**Type of Flight:** Private

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1                      Passengers - 3

**Injuries:** Crew - None                      Passengers - None

**Nature of Damage:** Fire damage to engine compartment and structural damage to both wings

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence with IMC rating

**Commander's Age:** 56 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 298 hours (of which 160 were on type)

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and subsequent enquiries by AAIB

Shortly after take-off from Southampton en route to Guernsey when at 350 feet the pilot experienced vibration. As he turned back for an emergency landing a strong acrid smell became apparent and the engine failed. A landing was carried out on a grassed area to the eastern side of the airfield.

The evacuation of the front passenger was hindered by his head set plug, which had not been disconnected prior to his attempt to leave the aircraft.

The engine compartment had suffered severe damage from fire, and structural damage to the wings was found, consistent with landing on rough ground. The exhaust muffler had separated from the twin exhaust stacks on the left hand side of the engine, allowing exhaust gases to escape into the engine compartment. Both left hand exhaust system clamps were found loosely attached, but their bolts were missing. The aircraft had flown for 160 hours from new and had undergone an Annual Star inspection and a C of A renewal four hours before the accident.