

AIB Bulletin

7/84

No: 7/84

Ref: EW/G83/11/08

Aircraft type and registration:	Rockwell Commander, 112A G-BIUO (light single engine aircraft)
Year of Manufacture:	1975
Date and time (GMT):	18 November 1983 at 1800 hrs.
Location:	Cardiff Airport
Type of flight:	Training
Persons on board:	Crew — 2 Passengers — Nil
Injuries:	Crew — Nil Passengers — N/A
Nature of damage:	Propeller bent, engine crankcase cracked
Commander's Licence:	Senior Commercial Pilots Licence, with Instructors rating
Commander's Age:	28 years
Commander's total flying experience:	1775 hours (of which 10 hours were on type)
Information Source:	Accident Report Pro-forma completed by Commander

The aircraft was being flown for the purpose of I.M.C. night training when, after a final ILS approach with full flap selected and '3 — greens' reportedly indicated, the noseleg suddenly collapsed during the ground-roll following a normal landing. The aircraft slid to rest on its nose, damaging the propeller. The instructor and student were uninjured. Subsequent examination of the nose gear found that a terminal had broken away from the down-limit microswitch, causing the electrically powered hydraulic pump to stop prematurely, before the noseleg had fully locked-down. It was confirmed that in this condition, only the 2 green lights

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associated with the main undercarriage locked-down should have been indicated. With this terminal repaired, the undercarriage was cycled successfully — as indeed it had done during the tests associated with the aircraft's last annual inspection, some 3 flying hours previously. The failed terminal was fitted with a rubber sleeve for weather-protection and this had not been removed during the annual check to allow inspection.