Socata TB9, G-BJUG, 16 September 1996

AAIB Bulletin No: 11/96 Ref: EW/G96/09/13 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Socata TB9, G-BJUG

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-D2A piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1981

Date & Time (UTC): 16 September 1996 at 0820 hrs

Location: Oaksey Park Airfield, Cirencester

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage:

Damage to both wing leading edges and to undercarriage

fairings. Rupture of right hand fuel tank

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with IMC and Night Ratings

Commander's Age: 51 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 266 hours (of which 30 were on type)

Last 90 days - 6 hours

Last 28 days - 3 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

At the conclusion of a flight from Biggin Hill, the aircraft wascleared to join overhead the airfield for a left hand circuiton Runway 22. When on the base leg, the pilot, who had not beento this airfield before, considered that the aircraft was relativelyhigh and selected full flap early to compensate. He then closedthe throttle and put the aircraft nose down while maintainingan airspeed of 80 kt in an effort to lose the excess height. Having been warned that a displaced threshold was in use, thepilot flared the aircraft as he passed the displaced thresholdmarkers. At this stage he saw a yellow board ahead of him andto the right of the runway and became temporarily confused asto whether he had mistaken the threshold markers. He endeavouredtherefore to stretch the flare to touch down beyond the yellowboard. However at this point he realised that the yellow boardwas not associated with the displaced threshold and thereforechanged his mind and attempted to put the aircraft on the runway.

The aircraft continued to float until it reached the mid-point of the runway before touching down. As the grass surface wasdamp, the brakes were relatively ineffective and the pilot, realisingthat he would be unable to stop before the boundary fence of theairfield, applied power to take off again. However, he then decided that this was also not possible in the distance remaining and closed the throttle. The aircraft went through the boundary fence and was prevented from hitting the hedge at the further edge of this second field by the pilot who turned the aircraft hard to the left and brought it to a standstill close to the airfield boundary fence.