Extra 300 Series 037, J-YRNB, 11 June 1996

AAIB Bulletin No: 8/96 Ref: EW/G96/06/16 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Extra 300 Series 037, J-YRNB

No & Type of Engines: 1 AEIO-540-LIB5 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1992

Date & Time (UTC): 11 June 1996 at 1840 hrs

Location: Usk, South Wales

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Damage to propeller, engine cowling, landing gear fuselage, and shock loading to engine

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 31 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 1,500 hours (of which 500were on type)

Last 90 days - 80 hours

Last 28 days - 15 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submittedby the pilot

The aircraft was part of a foreign aerobatic display team thathad completed a display at RAF Cosford and was en-route to BigginHill in Kent. The forecast weather, obtained from Shawbury at1550 hrs, gave broken cloud at 1,500 feet, overcast conditionsat 2,500 feet with a surface wind of 210°/13 kt and visibilityof 10 to 18 km. En-route the weather conditions deteriorated with the visibility reducing to 3 km in rain, the cloud base lowering 500 feet and the surface wind increasing to 210°/20 kt The leader therefore decided to divert the formation and landat the Usk, Gwent, home of the South Wales Gliding Club.

The pilot reported that the aircraft landed on the wet grass atthe correct speed heading in a north easterly direction. As heapplied the brakes the aircraft started to skid. He tried toturn from side to side to increase the ground roll but the aircraftdid not respond to the application of rudder. The aircraft continuedin a straight line eventually colliding with the airstrip boundaryfence. The right

wing then hit a tree bring the aircraft to restin the garden of an adjacent house. The pilot and passenger, who were wearing full harnesses, vacated the aircraft withoutinjury.

The pilot assessed the contributory causes to the accident asbeing; the presence of high obstacles on finals forcing a steeperthan normal approach, too short a landing distance available,wet grass conditions making braking less effective and obstacles the far end of the field preventing a go-around.