

Piper PA-23-250, G-BAVZ

AAIB Bulletin No:
9/2001

Ref: EW/G2001/06/31

Category: 1.1

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-23-250, G-BAVZ

No & Type of Engines: 2 Lycoming IO-540-C4B5 piston engines

Year of Manufacture: 1973

Date & Time (UTC): 25 June 2001 at 1754 hrs

Location: Near Chester, Cheshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: None

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilots Licence

Commander's Age: 42 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 911 hours (of which 233 were on type)

Last 90 days - 117 hours

Last 28 days - 42 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was en-route from Biggin Hill to Liverpool in CAVOK conditions when the right engine began to surge. The pilot reported that the fuel flow appeared normal and he suspected a faulty propeller Constant Speed Unit (CSU). The right engine was shutdown and 10 minutes later the left engine displayed similar problems. The pilot identified a suitable field and a successful precautionary landing was carried out with no damage to the aircraft or injuries to the occupants.

The pilot assessed the cause of the incident as fuel mismanagement in that he had not made changes to fuel tank selections at the appropriate time.