

No: 9/84

Ref: EW/G84/04/15

Aircraft type and registration: Rallye 150 ST G-BECC (Light single engine fixed wing aircraft)

Year of manufacture: 1976

Date and time (GMT): 16 April 1984 at 1540 hrs

Location: Denham Aerodrome

Type of flight: Private

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — 1

Injuries: Crew — Nil Passengers — Nil

Nature of damage: Nose gear collapsed, damage to propeller and underside of engine.

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 33 years

Commander's total flying experience: 84 hours (all on type)

Information Source: Accident Report Pro forma completed by pilot

The aircraft was about to commence a take-off on runway 25 at Denham with the wind calm. The pilot applied full power and checked that the engine's temperature and pressure were normal as the aircraft started to roll. When the aircraft had accelerated to flying speed the pilot eased back on the controls but the nose wheel failed to lift off the ground even when more back control column was applied. The pilot then realised that the flaps, instead of being at the take-off position, were fully retracted. She attempted to select half flap but unintentionally lowered them completely. As the aircraft still failed to get airborne the pilot decided to abandon the take-off, closed the throttle and began to apply the brakes. The aircraft started a series of bounces which appeared to intensify. Since the pilot was uncertain that the aircraft could be stopped before reaching the end of the runway she decided to try and turn off to the left. As the aircraft veered off the runway its nose leg collapsed and it came to rest on the grass.