

AAIB Bulletin No: 3/93

Ref: EW/G92/12/15

Category: 1c

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Piper PA-34-220T Seneca III, G-IGHA

**No & Type of Engines:** 2 Continental TSIO-360-KB piston engines

**Year of Manufacture:** 1981

**Date & Time (UTC):** 30 December 1992 at 1541 hrs

**Location:** Redhill aerodrome, Surrey

**Type of Flight:** Private

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1                      Passengers - None

**Injuries:** Crew - None                      Passengers - N/A

**Nature of Damage:** Both propellers bent, right main landing gear collapsed

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:** 41 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 179 hours (of which 81 were on type)  
Last 90 days - 6 hours  
Last 28 days - 3 hours

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was on a flight from Lydd to Redhill aerodrome. The pilot reports that he arrived over Redhill in misty conditions and had difficulty in identifying the runway in use. On the final approach to runway 08R he was distracted by the presence of a helicopter which was high and to his left, and then realised that his aircraft was higher than ideal for the approach. He decided to continue and, after landing deep, initially applied only slight braking as he considered that the grass runway surface might be slippery. As the runway end was approached he increased the brake pressure and the aircraft began to swing to the left before the right main landing gear contacted the lip of an asphalt taxiway. The landing gear collapsed and the aircraft slid to a halt.

The weather conditions at the time of the accident were surface wind calm, visibility 4,500 metres in haze, cloud 7 oktas at 1,800 feet, with the temperature plus 01° C.