

**AAIB Bulletin No: 5/94**

**Ref: EW/G94/03/07**

**Category: 1.3**

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Jodel DR1050 Ambassadeur, G-ARXT

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Continental 0-200-A piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1962

**Date & Time (UTC):** 15 March 1994 at 1850 hrs

**Location:** Wellesbourne Mountford Airfield, Warwickshire

**Type of Flight:** Private

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1                      Passengers - 1

**Injuries:** Crew - None                      Passengers - None

**Nature of Damage:** Damage to upper part of left landing gear; minor damage to trailing edge of left wing

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

**Commander's Age:** 56 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 356 hours (of which 12 were on type)  
Last 90 days - 11 hours  
Last 28 days - 0 hours

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

The pilot lined up on Runway 36 in preparation for a series of night circuits. The weather was good and the surface wind was passed as 280°/10 kt. After starting the take-off roll, with full power selected, the pilot raised the tail; shortly afterwards the aircraft rapidly veered to the left and departed the runway onto the grass. The left gear hit one of the light units from the threshold lighting array and collapsed, bringing the aircraft to a halt.

The pilot considered that the accident was caused by him losing control on takeoff, probably because of the wind gusting and insufficient rudder correction. For the period, ATC recorded a surface wind of 250° to 290° at 8 kt gusting to 15 kt.