

AAIB Bulletin No: 10/93

Ref: EW/G93/08/07

Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-38-112 Tomahawk, G-BKCY

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-235-L2A piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1981

Date & Time (UTC): 8 August 1993 at 1355 hrs

Location: Wellesbourne Mountford Airfield, Warwickshire

Type of Flight: Private (Training)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Nose landing gear separated and propeller bent. Engine mountings, firewall and lower cowlings distorted.

Commander's Licence: Student Pilot

Commander's Age: 47 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 128 hours (all on type)
Last 90 days - 2 hours
Last 28 days - 2 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The wind at Wellesbourne Mountford was 270° to 310° at 5 to 8 kt and Runway 36 was in use. The student had made three circuits and landings with an instructor and was to continue the detail solo, in order to consolidate his circuit flying.

Almost from the beginning of the take-off roll, despite the application of full right rudder, the aircraft swung to the left onto the grass. The nose leg collapsed and the aircraft came to rest on its nose and its main landing gear. The student switched off the fuel and the electrical circuits and vacated the aircraft.