

No: 3/88

Ref: 1c

**Aircraft type and registration:** Cessna F337F G-AZKO

**No & Type of engines:** 2 Continental Motors Corp 10-360-C piston engines

**Year of Manufacture:** 1971

**Date and time (GMT):** 6 July 1986 at approximately 1235 hrs

**Location:** Leicester Airfield

**Type of flight:** Private (pleasure)

**Persons on board:** Crew — 2                      Passengers — None

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

**Nature of damage:** Substantial to outer left wing

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

**Commander's Age:** 48 years

**Commander's Total Flying Experience:** 1750 hours (of which 1026 were on type)

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and correspondence between CAA and other agencies.

The aircraft was taking off on runway 28 during an air race organised by the Royal Aero Club's Record Racing and Rally Association.

After becoming airborne the aircraft flew along the extended centreline at low level to a point some 400 metres past the upwind end of the licensed runway, and on passing the first scatterpoint marker commenced a tight climbing turn to the left. The left wing made contact with a large hawthorn bush located behind the marker, and the outboard section of the wing received substantial damage. The flight was discontinued and the aircraft made a safe landing back at Leicester.

The pilot stated that he did not consider that this event constituted a "reportable accident" as defined in The Civil Aviation (Investigation of Accidents) Regulations 1983, Regulation 2(1)(b). However, the outboard section of the left wing required the replacement of the upper and lower skins, ribs, wing leading edge, wing tip and associated fitting fuel tank vent, and as a precautionary measure, replacement of the main wing attachment bolts.