

AAIB Bulletin No: 10/94

Ref: EW/G94/08/09

Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Jodel D120A, G-AVLY

No & Type of Engines: 1 Continental C90-14F piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1967

Date & Time (UTC): 15 August 1994 at 1625 hrs

Location: Compton Abbas Airfield, Wiltshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 2 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Main landing gear legs fractured at mounting points, propeller, left wing and instrument venturi

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence with Instructor's Rating

Commander's Age: 32 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 2,050 hours (of which 9 were on type)
Last 90 days - 89 hours
Last 28 days - 24 hours

Handling Pilot's Age: 52 years

Handling Pilot's Experience: 438 hours (of which 10 were on type)
Last 90 days - 10 hours
Last 28 days - 10 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The handling pilot was undergoing type conversion with a qualified instructor in pleasant weather conditions with a 5 kt crosswind from the left. He was seated on the left and it was his fourth conversion flight of the day; they had been airborne for 45 minutes.

The pilot reported that after an apparently normal approach and touchdown on grass Runway 26, the aircraft was slowed to approximately 10 kt when it suddenly veered to the right. Despite prompt application of full left rudder, the aircraft ground looped during which both main gear legs collapsed.

The instructor stated that the aircraft's speed at the time was so low that the application of full left rudder could not have had the desired effect. The handling pilot did not apply the wheelbrakes in time to avoid the accident and he was unable to intervene because there were no brake pedals fitted on his side of the aircraft.