

Aircraft type and registration: Pilatus PC-6/B2-H2 G-OAPA

No & Type of engines: 1 Pratt & Whitney PT 6A-27 turboprop engine

Year of Manufacture: 1982

Date and time (UTC): 23 August 1987 at 1620 hrs

Location: Netheravon Airfield, Wiltshire

Type of flight: Display practice

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — None

Injuries: Crew — None Passengers — N/A

Nature of damage: Collapse of landing gear, damage below pilot's door and to propeller blades and engine

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 45 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 2980 hours (of which 130 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and further telephone enquiries by AAIB.

The pilot was practising a display routine with which he was familiar and which included a demonstration of the aircraft's short landing capability. After a short take-off the aircraft climbed straight ahead to 500 feet before turning down wind and descending to 200 feet. On left base full flap was selected and, when on final approach, the aircraft was set up for a short landing. During the round out stage of the landing the engine torque lever was advanced and elevator applied to raise the nose of the aircraft. The pilot reported that the engine did not respond in the manner to which he was accustomed and, in the absence of power, an excessive rate of sink caused the aircraft to land heavily. The landing gear collapsed and the propeller was badly damaged. There was no fire and, having completed the shut down drills, the pilot left the aircraft.

The engine was strip examined by the engine manufacturer's UK agent. Apart from damage that was sustained at impact, nothing amiss was discovered. The propeller and fuel control unit have been returned to their respective manufacturers for further investigation.