

Beech Bonanza A36, N36NB, 29 March 1997

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Aircraft Type and Registration:	Beech Bonanza A36, N36NB
No & Type of Engines:	1 Continental IO-550-B piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	1985
Date & Time (UTC):	29 March 1997 at 1533 hrs
Location:	Half mile east of Lydd-Ashford Airport, Kent
Type of Flight:	Private
Persons on Board:	Crew - 2 - Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None - Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Nose wheel detached, propeller and engine damaged
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age:	43 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	1,036 hours (of which 5 were on type) Last 90 days - 22 hours Last 28 days - 6 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was flown from Biggin Hill to Lydd earlier on the day of the accident for the purpose of carrying out visual circuit training. After a break for lunch of 1 1/4 hours, the aircraft took off for the planned circuit-training sortie. Two circuits, with touch-and-go landings, were carried out on Runway 04. After the second touch-and-go landing, which was flapless, the engine note was heard to change at about the time that the landing gear was retracted. The engine then ran down and the aircraft was levelled at about 300 feet and turned to the right towards open country. After completion of the engine failure initial checks, the engine produced a burst of power and the crew decided to attempt a landing on Runway 22. However the engine then failed completely and the crew therefore elected to carry out a forced landing in a nearby field. Touch-down was normal on the main wheels but due to the soft ground the nose wheel dug in and broke off. The crew escaped from the aircraft unharmed and there was no fire.

Extensive checks were carried out by the maintenance company but no technical fault that might have caused the accident was found.