

No: 7/90

Ref: EW/G90/04/15

Category: 1c

**Aircraft Type
and Registration:**

Rutan Varieze, G-BEZE

No & Type of Engines:

1 Rolls-Royce Continental O-200-A piston engine

Year of Manufacture:

1986

Date and Time (UTC):

28 April 1990 at 1735 hrs

Location:

2nm north of Cheadle, Staffordshire

Type of Flight:

Private

Persons on Board:

Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

Injuries:

Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage:

Nose landing gear mounting and main landing gear spats damaged

Commander's Licence:

Airline Transport Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age:

31 years

**Commander's Total
Flying Experience:**

4,198 hours (of which 29 were on type)

Information Source:

Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

At approximately 1800 feet, during a descent from 3000 feet, the engine suffered a total power loss. The carburettor heat was selected to HOT and the mixture, throttle and magneto selections were checked. The fuel selector was moved to the auxiliary tank position.

A field was selected and during the continued descent the engine twice developed partial power, but would not respond to throttle movement.

The approach and landing were normal, but after about 25 yards of the landing roll the aircraft passed over a "dip" in the ground which caused the nose landing gear to partially collapse.

Subsequent examination did not find any defects associated with the engine, but the main fuel tank vent was found to be blocked.