

Aircraft type and registration: Piper PA34 N8261V

No & Type of engines: 2 Continental TSI0-360-EB/13 piston engines

Year of Manufacture: 1980

Date and time (UTC): 1 December 1987 at 1620 hrs

Location: Exeter Airport

Type of flight: Private (business)

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — None

Injuries: Crew — None Passengers — N/A

Nature of damage: Substantial — to right main landing gear, right engine and propeller, right aileron, and skin

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with IMC and Night Ratings

Commander's Age: 56 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 1900 hours (of which 25 were on type)

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

The aircraft took-off on runway 08 on a flight to Guernsey. After the landing gear was selected up the red "gear unsafe" warning light stayed on. The landing gear was selected down again but the light remained illuminated.

ATC were advised, and after the aircraft had made a low fly-past down the runway the controller reported that the landing gear appeared to be extended. The pilot decided to make a precautionary landing on runway 08, and during the landing run, the right main landing gear collapsed. The pilot's diagonal upper torso restraint held throughout.

During recovery, when the aircraft was jacked up, and with landing gear selected down, the master switch was selected on but the hydraulic power pack had failed, and the pump did not run. However, when the emergency gear extension knob was operated the right main landing gear extended and locked.