

No: 9/87

Ref: 1c

Aircraft type and registration: Cessna F150L G-MABI

No & Type of engines: 1 Continental Motors Corporation 0-200-A piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1973

Date and time (UTC): 11 July 1987 at 1150 hrs

Location: Norwich Airport

Type of flight: Training

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — None

Injuries: Crew — None Passengers — N/A

Nature of damage: Propeller, nose engine cowling and engine mounting frame buckled. Nose landing gear linkages sheared

Commander's Licence: Student Pilot

Commander's Age: 17 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 9 hours (of which 3 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot.

The student pilot was carrying out a solo circuit exercise. The weather was favourable, the temperature 21°C and the wind 270°/18 kt.

During an otherwise normal circuit, as the pilot began the flare prior to touchdown, he suffered cramp in the left arm. He states that this caused him to pull the control column too far aft and the aircraft "ballooned". He therefore used his right hand to continue the landing, an action totally unfamiliar to him.

The aircraft bounced twice and, on the third contact with the ground, the nose gear collapsed and the pilot was unable to prevent the aircraft from swinging to the left. It came to rest on the left edge of the runway, 180 metres from the threshold.

The pilot was wearing a lapstrap and diagonal upper-torso restraint which held on impact. There was no fire.