

No: 10/91

Ref: EW/G91/08/22

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Socata Morane Saulnier Rallye 180T, G-BKVA

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-360-A3A piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1979

Date & Time (UTC): 20 August 1991 at 1245 hrs

Location: Lyveden airfield, Northamptonshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Undercarriage collapsed, damage to right wing and both flaps

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with IMC rating

Commander's Age: 27 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 641 hours (of which 402 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was engaged in glider towing activities, and was returning to land at the aerodrome after an aerotow. It was the pilot's practice to land to the left of the main westerly glider strip, on an uphill grass slope. The approach to this area was over a stubble field, separated from the landing site by rough grass and an unmarked ditch. The pilot reported that he misjudged the approach while attempting to land close to the start of the available area, and the undercarriage struck the aerodrome side of the unmarked ditch, causing the main undercarriage to collapse, damaging the flaps and right wing. The aircraft was secured and the pilot vacated the aircraft by the normal means. There was no fire, and the pilot wore a shoulder harness which held throughout.