

No: 9/89

Ref: EW/G89/07/06

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Beech F33A, G-HOPE

No & Type of Engines: 1 Continental Motors Corp IO-520-BA piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1978

Date and Time (UTC): 14 July 1989 at 1720 hrs

Location: Bournemouth International Airport, Dorset

Type of Flight: Private (business)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Substantial to propeller, engine and flaps

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with Instrument Rating

Commander's Age: 57 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 5,390 hours (of which 1,487 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and further telephone enquiries

The pilot joined the circuit pattern at Bournemouth on a left base leg for Runway 26. He was convinced that all pre-landing checks had been completed but the aircraft landed with the wheels retracted. The pilot was uninjured and vacated the aircraft without difficulty. The emergency services arrived promptly and when the pilot returned to the aircraft, the landing gear selector lever was found to be in the 'DOWN' position. When the electrical master switch was selected 'ON', the landing gear doors unlatched and the landing gear operating motor ran.

The pilot states that on final approach there was some unnecessary activity on the radio frequency in use and he cannot recall hearing the landing gear warning horn.