

Piper PA-28-140, G-BFBF

AAIB Bulletin No: 6/97 Ref: EW/G97/03/20 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Piper PA-28-140, G-BFBF
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-320-E2A piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	1973
Date & Time (UTC):	23 March 1997 at 1413 hrs
Location:	Aldergrove Airport, N Ireland
Type of Flight:	Private
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1 - Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None - Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Nosewheel leg broken off. Substantial damage to propeller and engine
Commander's Licence:	Student
Commander's Age:	49 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	235 hours (all on type) Last 90 days - 14 hours Last 28 days - 1 hour
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot was returning to Aldergrove airport having completed a solo navigation exercise which had been very successful. Runway 35 was in use and the weather conditions were excellent, with a surface wind of 330 / 10 kt, visibility greater than 10 km and no significant weather or cloud. The pilot flew a normal powered approach but the aircraft bounced on initial contact with the runway surface. When the aircraft made contact with the ground for a second time, the nosewheel leg broke away allowing the propeller to strike the ground. After the aircraft had come to a halt the pilot informed ATC, shut down the engine and vacated the aircraft unaided and uninjured.