

No: 12/89

Ref: EW/G89/06/34

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Stampe SV4C(G), G-OODE

No & Type of Engines: 1 De Havilland Gipsy Major 10 Mk.1 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1947

Date and Time (UTC): 26 June 1989 at 1300 hrs

Location: Church Farm, Siddlesham, Sussex

Type of Flight: Commercial (positioning)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Right interplane strut fractured, bottom mainplane front attachment bolts disconnected and disruption of the aileron circuit

Commander's Licence: Air Transport Pilot (FAA) and Commercial Pilot's Licence (CAA) with Instructor rating

Commander's Age: 40 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 6,000 hours (of which 250 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot was recovering the aircraft from a field in which it had been repaired following a forced landing. The wind was south westerly and the take-off was consequently into sun.

Following a successful take-off, the pilot was carrying out a low flypast of the field and was aiming to approach the field through a gap in the trees. As the aircraft arrived at the gap, at a speed of about 110 kt, the right lower wing struck some 10 KV power cables which had been obscured by the into sun flight path of the aircraft and the fact that the cable suspension poles were buried in the trees. The right lower mainplane buckled backwards and rotated upwards, rendering the ailerons useless and necessitating full power and full rudder in order to keep the aircraft flying, albeit in a continuous right turn.

The surrounding area was, in the opinion of the pilot, unsuitable for a forced landing in this condition and so he manoeuvred the aircraft around the area at a speed of about 60 kt and a height of 75-100 feet until he was able to make an uneventful full power landing, in a continuous right turn, in the middle of Goodwood airfield.