

No: 9/88

Ref: EW/G88/07/07

Category: 1a

Aircraft Type and Registration: DH98 Mosquito T3, G-ASKH

No & Type of Engines: 2 Rolls-Royce Merlin 25 (Port) piston engine
Merlin 502 (Starboard) piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1944

Date and Time (UTC): 7 July 1988 at 1512 hrs

Location: Hawarden (Chester) Airport

Type of Flight: Training

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Minor to main landing gear

Commander's Licence: Airline Transport Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 49 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 8400 hours (of which 1 was on type)

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

The pilot, who was current on multi-engined tailwheel aircraft, had completed a CAA approved training course on the Mosquito which included an observation flight immediately before the accident flight. The aircraft was not fitted with dual flying controls and the landing run following his first touchdown was the first opportunity that the pilot had had to operate the wheel brakes at other than taxiing speed. After an uneventful flight a "wheeler" landing was made onto the into-wind runway. As the tailwheel was lowered onto the runway, the aircraft started a swing to the right. Application of full left-rudder failed to contain the swing so some left brake was applied. This caused a rapid swing to the left during which the aircraft departed the left side of the runway. Application of right brake caused a second swing to the right during which the aircraft adopted a sideways sliding motion to the left. It then crossed a taxi-way with a raised edge before swinging once more to the left. Having crossed the taxi-way the aircraft came to rest on the grass to the left of the landing runway where it was shut down. The pilot was uninjured but subsequent examination of the aircraft revealed that both main landing gear legs were distorted.