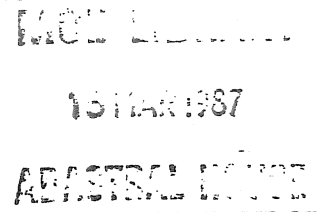




MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Military Aircraft Accident Summaries



4/87

13 March 1987

AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT TO ROYAL AIR FORCE HAWK TMK1 XX223

Date: 7 July 1986
Parent Airfield: RAF Valley
Place of accident: RAF Valley
Crew: Student Pilot
Casualties: One minor injury

CIRCUMSTANCES

1. On 7 July 1986 a student pilot flew a 'fixed power' circuit after take off, simulating an emergency requiring minimum throttle movement. The circuit was flown as planned and after selecting full flap he checked that his undercarriage was down, and that his feet were off the toe brakes. He then concentrated on maintaining the centreline in a crosswind of 17 knots.
2. On touchdown the left tyre burst causing the aircraft to yaw sharply to the left. The pilot was unable to stop the aircraft running off the runway and he decided to eject. The ejection sequence worked normally; the pilot suffered minor bruising and some splatter burns from the miniature detonating cord used to shatter the canopy. The aircraft became airborne for a short period before crashing on the airfield.

CAUSE

2. The initial electrical malfunction was not related to the loss of the aircraft. The investigation established that the accident was caused by a mislocated circlip on the engine Fuel Control Unit (FCU) which led to an uncontrolled fuel leak from the FCU thereby reducing the fuel supply to the engine and causing a substantial loss of engine speed and thrust. The investigation was unable to determine by whom or at what time in the FCU's life the circlip had been mislocated.

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