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AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT INVOLVING ROYAL AIR FORCE

JET PROVOST T3A XN641

Date:	11 May 1984
Parent Airfield:	RAF Linton-on-Ouse
Place of Accident:	RAF Linton-on-Ouse
Crew:	One Student Pilot
Casualties:	Nil

CIRCUMSTANCES

1. At the end of a general handling sortie, a student returned to his base airfield to fly a circuit and then land. His first approach to the runway was baulked by another aircraft ahead of him and he therefore climbed away to carry out a further practice rejoin. His subsequent circuit and final approach were seen to be erratically flown, culminating in a late touchdown to the left of the runway centre line, and with insufficient allowance for the crosswind which was present. The aircraft bounced and continued to drift left with the student applying full brake as he realised his proximity to the far end of the runway. Towards the latter part of the landing run both tyres burst and, after slewing right and then left, the aircraft engaged the arrester barrier. Because the aircraft was displaced from the runway centre line, the left wing suffered extensive damage when it struck the port barrier stanchion. The student was uninjured.

CAUSE

2. A detailed investigation determined that the student allowed his judgement to be affected by his fuel state which was approaching the briefed minimum. Thus, although there was adequate fuel for further circuits, he persisted with a landing despite having flown an erratic approach. After his late touchdown, his directional and braking difficulties were exacerbated by a crosswind which had been closely monitored throughout by flying supervisors and had been found to be within student solo flying limits.

SUBSEQUENT ACTION

3. After additional guidance the student was allowed to continue with his flying training. No further action was considered necessary since the cause of the accident was a misjudgement by an inexperienced ab initio student.

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