

Aircraft type and registration: American Aviation AA1/B G-BCIM (light single engine fixed wing aircraft)

Year of manufacture: 1974

Date and time (GMT): 5 January 1984 at 1540 hrs

Location: Roman Bank Aerodrome, Skegness, Lincolnshire

Type of flight: Instruction

Persons on board: Crew – 2 Passengers – Nil

Injuries: Crew – 1 (minor) Passengers – N/A

Nature of damage: Aircraft turned over causing considerable distortion to the airframe as well as detaching one horizontal stabiliser and damaging the propeller

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 47 years

Commander's total flying experience: 4000 hours (of which 1250 were on type)

The accident occurred during a dual instruction flight flown by the student, a "Silver C" glider pilot, and it was their second flight of the day, the first having passed without incident. The wind was 300°/8kt and runway 29 was in use.

The take-off, which was conducted by the student, was normal until rotation was initiated at 61 mph at which point the aircraft decelerated slightly but nevertheless became airborne. It then sank gently to the ground and again decelerated slightly before becoming airborne a second time. The instructor, mindful of the decreasing take-off run available, took control and attempted to accelerate the aircraft in level flight to 70 mph. Although the aircraft remained airborne for some 100 yards, it did not accelerate but struck the ground and overturned.

There was no fire and both upper torso restraints held during the impact. Both occupants escaped from the left hand side of the cockpit.

The instructor has since observed that the engine was developing full power throughout the take-off and that the student, who was wearing heavy boots, tensed slightly at rotation, thereby applying some foot-brake.