

No: 6/87

Ref: 1a

**Aircraft type and registration:** Airbus A300B4-103 G-BMNB

**No & Type of engines:** 2 General Electric CF6-50C2 fanjets

**Year of Manufacture:** 1975

**Date and time (UTC):** 16 April 1987 at 1026 hrs

**Location:** Stansted Airport, Essex

**Type of flight:** Positioning

**Persons on board:** Crew — 5                      Passengers — None

**Injuries:** Crew — None                      Passengers — N/A

**Nature of damage:** Tail skid and shock absorber detached with consequent damage to rear fuselage skin

**Commander's Licence:** Airline Transport Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:** 47 years

**Commander's Total Flying Experience:** 13078 hours (of which 114 were on type)

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot.

During a flexible thrust take-off, with the first officer as handling pilot, a double "bump" was felt as the aircraft was rotated. Air traffic control advised the crew that there were tail-scrape marks on the runway and the flight was continued to Gatwick Airport, where a normal landing was made.

Subsequent examination of the aircraft revealed minor punctures in the rear fuselage skin, caused by debris from the tail-skid shock strut.