

No: 10/87

Ref: 1c

Aircraft type and registration: Piper PA-38-112 G-BMTO

No & Type of engines: 1 Lycoming O-235 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1961

Date and time (GMT): 16 August 1987 at 1100 hrs

Location: Seething Airfield, Norwich, Norfolk

Type of flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on board: Crew — 1 Passengers — 1

Injuries: Crew — None Passengers — None

Nature of damage: Engine mounting frame, nosewheel axle and main undercarriage attachment bolts.

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 47 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 105 hours (of which 2 were on type)

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

The pilot reported that on completion of a cross-country flight, as there was no reply to his radio calls, he made a normal left hand downwind join for runway 25 at 1000 feet. After he turned onto finals he noticed a motorglider parked on the grass, just to the right of the touchdown point and pointing into wind. Although he checked his speed at 70 knots at the completion of his final turn he was distracted by the other aircraft which he thought might have been taking-off.

The stall warning was heard but did not immediately register with the pilot as it was not unusual for it to be heard just before landing. The aircraft stalled before power could be applied and landed heavily from about 20 feet.