

# AIB Bulletin

# 3/86

**No: 3/86**

**Ref: EW/G85/06/11**

**Aircraft type and registration:** Partenavia PN68B Victor 62 G-PART (light twin engined fixed wing aircraft)

**Year of Manufacture:** 1977

**Date and time (GMT):** 16 June 1985 at 1814 hrs

**Location:** Rayleigh, Essex

**Type of flight:** Private (pleasure)

**Persons on board:** Crew — 1                      Passengers — 1

**Injuries:** Crew — None                      Passengers — None

**Nature of damage:** Slight damage to right-hand engine cowling and wheel fairing.

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:** 34 years

**Commander's total flying experience:** 234 hours (of which 10 were on type)

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot on 17 Feb 86.

The aircraft was flying from Southend to Stapleford Tawney at about 1000 ft amsl when the

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emergency window, which is mounted on the right-hand side of the cabin, opened and then fell away. It struck a person on the ground, who was slightly injured.

During the pre-flight inspection at Southend the emergency window had appeared to be closed and locked, and the adjacent seat was unoccupied during the flight. The window is secured at the lower sill by two pivotted tongues operated by rods from the emergency release lever; the maintenance organisation reports that it is possible for the lever to be placed in the closed position without the tongues properly engaging their respective slots. The pilot considers that the lever may have been improperly moved by a passenger at an earlier time. The system has since been modified by the maintenance organisation to include frangible witness wire to the lever and cut-outs in the furnishings to allow checking of the engagement of the tongues.