

Airbus A321-231, G-MIDL

AAIB Bulletin No: 11/2001	Ref: EW/G2001/08/25	Category: 1.1
Aircraft Type and Registration:	Airbus A321-231, G-MIDL	
No & Type of Engines:	2 IAE V2533-A5 turbofan engines	
Year of Manufacture:	2000	
Date & Time (UTC):	29 August 2001 at 1420 hrs	
Location:	Stand C45, London Heathrow Airport	
Type of Flight:	Public Transport (Passenger)	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 8	Passengers - 185
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Door bearings damaged, door hinge twisted	
Commander's Licence:	Airline Transport Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	53 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	13,800 hours (of which 250 were on type)	
	Last 90 days - 148 hours	
	Last 28 days - 28 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The passenger boarding had been completed for a scheduled flight to Amsterdam. The final pre-departure procedures, including load sheet completion, were being carried out. The external boarding steps at door 1L were raised prior to their removal from the vicinity of the aircraft. This caused the aircraft's door to be forced upward and damaged the door bearings and twisted the upper door hinge.

The commander commented that the standard ground handling procedures had not been complied with by ground staff.