

No: 6/87

Ref: 1c

**Aircraft type and registration:** Reims Cessna FA152 G-BLAC

**No & Type of engines:** 1 Lycoming O-235-L2C piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1980

**Date and time (UTC):** 22 April 1987 at 1335 hrs

**Location:** Manchester (Barton) Airfield

**Type of flight:** Training

**Persons on board:** Crew — 2                      Passengers — None

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

**Nature of damage:** Left main gear leg broken with consequent slight damage to the left wing tip and tailplane

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

**Commander's Age:** 27 years

**Commander's Total Flying Experience:** 1800 hours (of which 850 were on type)

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

In order to carry out the first flight of the day, the student was taxiing the aircraft from the parking area towards runway 20. After about 2 minutes of very slow taxiing, there was a loud noise and the left main landing gear leg collapsed. The aircraft had not crossed any pot holes and the grass surface was not particularly rough.

The instructor switched off the fuel and electrics and, because of the aircraft attitude, both occupants left via the right side door. There was no fire.

Subsequent inspection revealed that the leg had failed in fatigue originating from surface corrosion beneath the footstep.