

YAK 52, LY-AKF

AAIB Bulletin No: 12/99 **Ref:** EW/G99/10/02 **Category:** 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: YAK 52, LY-AKF

No & Type of Engines: 1 Ivchenko Vedeneyev M-14P piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1987

Date & Time (UTC): 3 October 1999 at 1345 hrs

Location: Dunkeswell Airfield, Devon

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Shock-loaded engine, propeller, flaps, nosewheel and tail skid

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence with Instrument and Instructor Rating

Commander's Age: 47 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 1,503 hours (of which 39 were on type)

Last 90 days - 31 hours

Last 28 days - 17 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot plus telephone enquiries

After an uneventful landing, whilst still on the runway, the pilot intended to raise the flaps but inadvertently raised the landing gear instead. The aircraft immediately sank to the ground, left wing first, and the propeller struck the runway before the pilot could stop the engine.

The YAK 52 has similarly shaped and mechanised levers for flap and gear. Both levers are operated by the left hand; the landing gear lever is mounted on the instrument panel in front of the throttle and moves up and down whereas the flap lever is located behind the throttle and moves fore and aft. There have been several previous occurrences of inadvertent operation of the wrong lever and landing with the gear retracted. The UK importers of the type have tried several modifications to address these problems. Few solutions are suitable for every situation and their endeavours continue.