

**INCIDENT**

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Piper PA-28-161 Cherokee Warrior II, G-FIZZ

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Lycoming O-320-D3G piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1977

**Date & Time (UTC):** 21 August 1993 at 1422 hrs

**Location:** Norwich Airport, Norfolk

**Type of Flight:** Private (Training)

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 2                      Passengers - None

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

**Nature of Damage:** Heat damage to flexible hoses and electrical cables in engine compartment

**Commander's Licence:** Airline Transport Pilot's Licence with Flying Instructor Rating

**Commander's Age:** 46 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 5,340 hours (of which 1,830 were on type)  
Last 90 days - 152 hours  
Last 28 days - 55 hours

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

The instructor reported that the student attempted to start the engine after refuelling. As the engine failed to start after approximately 30 seconds, the starter was left to cool. The instructor then tried clearing the engine by operating the starter with lean mixture and throttle open. He then made a further attempt to start. Smoke was then seen coming from the forward part of the engine. The aircraft was evacuated and the fire was extinguished using the aircraft extinguisher and by the efforts of the airport fire service.

Subsequent examination revealed heat damage to a number of pipes and cables in the engine bay area. The Chief Engineer of the operating company considers that the fire occurred due to ignition of a small quantity of fuel which dribbled from the carburettor intake, possibly as a result of overpriming.