

AAIB Bulletin No: 10/95

Ref: EW/G95/08/08

Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: DH60G Gipsy Moth, G-ABAG

No & Type of Engines: 1 De Havilland Gypsy 1 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1930

Date & Time (UTC): 6 August 1995 at 1409 hrs

Location: Old Warden Airfield, Bedfordshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Propeller cracked and damage to the engine cowling

Commander's Licence: Airline Transport Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 36 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 5,000 hours (of which 1 hour was on type)
Last 90 days - 250 hours
Last 28 days - 85 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was being taxied prior to making a display flight and, because it had no brakes and a fixed tail skid, directional control was being augmented by an assistant guiding the starboard wingtip. As the aircraft turned right along the eastern edge of the spectator enclosure, it began to accelerate down a small slope. The throttle was closed but the walker was unable to keep up and prevent the aircraft from continuing the turn which was assisted by the 5 to 10 kt northerly wind. The Gipsy Moth struck the rudder of a parked Tiger Moth. The pilot switched off the engine but the aircraft continued, at a walking pace, into the left engine of a parked de Havilland DH88 Comet before coming to rest.

The rudder of the Tiger Moth was damaged. The Comet sustained damage to the propeller and the engine cowlings and the side impact also considerably distorted the whole engine mounting frame.