

AAIB Bulletin No: 9/94

Ref: EW/G94/06/16

Category: 1.3

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

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

Year of Manufacture: 1989

Date & Time (UTC): 17 June 1994 at 1625 hrs

Location: Denham Aerodrome, Middlesex

Type of Flight: Private (Training)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Minor to left wing, substantial to right wing, right main landing gear, engine, propeller and all components forward of firewall

Commander's Licence: Student Pilot

Commander's Age: 40 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 28 hours (all on type)
Last 90 days - 19 hours
Last 28 days - 10 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The student pilot, on his third solo flight, was carrying out an approach to Runway 24. The weather conditions were CAVOK with a surface wind of 260°/10 to 15 kt. After a stabilised approach the pilot flared and, possibly due to fluctuating wind conditions, floated along the runway. The aircraft's speed reduced to the point of the stall whereupon the left wing dropped. The pilot, fearing that the left wing would strike the ground, initiated a go-around. The aircraft pitched sharply nose up and yawed to the left. The pilot was unable to correct the continuing roll to the left and the aircraft contacted the runway left wing first and came to rest 90° to the runway centreline.

Emergency services were quickly on the scene and assisted the pilot, who had been restrained by a lap and diagonal seat belt, from the aircraft.

Since the accident the student has received further training in stall recognition and the use of rudder.