

Piper PA-31, G-EEAC

AAIB Bulletin No: 3/98 Ref: EW/G98/01/10 Category: 1.2

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Piper PA-31, G-EEAC
No & Type of Engines:	2 Lycoming TIO-540-A2C piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	1971
Date & Time (UTC):	18 January 1998 at 1005 hrs
Location:	London Heathrow Airport, Middlesex
Type of Flight:	Public Transport
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1 - Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - None - Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Left elevator buckled and dented
Commander's Licence:	Commercial Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age:	53 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	3,750 hours (of which 1,900 were on type) Last 90 days - 82 hours Last 28 days - 21 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

A van driver had delivered documentation to one of his company aircraft. When he restarted his vehicle, he needed to reverse and in doing so, collided with G-EEAC which was parked and awaiting a delivery of medical cargo. The driver was apparently unaware of the accident and drove off. However, the commander had felt the collision and noted and reported the licence number of the van; additionally, other airport employees had also seen the accident and reported it to the commander.

The driver was subsequently interviewed by the Heathrow police. Additionally, his parent company, in agreement with Heathrow Airport Limited (HAL), initiated a full investigation. He will receive full company driver training before recommencing his duties.