

Piper PA-18-150 (Modified), G-ATRG, 30 June 2000 at 2110 hrs

AAIB Bulletin No: 8/2000 **Ref: EW/G2000/06/26** **Category: 1.3**

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-18-150 (Modified), G-ATRG

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-360-A4A piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1959

Date & Time (UTC): 30 June 2000 at 2110 hrs

Location: Lasham Airfield, Hampshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Propeller and rudder tip bent

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 36 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 2,241 hours (of which 246 were on type)
Last 90 days - 15 hours
Last 28 days - 4 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot planned to carry out a short local flight and some circuits for the purpose of maintaining his flying recency. The aircraft he was to use was engaged on glider towing operations and he waited for it to become available. By the time towing had finished and the aircraft had been refuelled there was only sufficient time to carry out a few circuits before dark. The pilot taxied the aircraft a short distance and carried out power and before take-off checks. He then turned a little to check behind him for approaching traffic and seeing none, lined up on the grass runway. He estimated that he was on the runway for 15 to 20 seconds before commencing his take off.

The take off was normal until when at about 200 feet above the ground the aircraft struck a glider, the wing of which passed through the propeller. The contact was made with the aircraft positioned below and to the right of the glider. The pilot then saw the glider descending to his left and ahead. The aircraft was still flying normally so the pilot carried out an abbreviated right-hand circuit, landed and shut down immediately. Both aircraft sustained damage but there were no injuries to persons on board. Although the pilot was aware that there was a glider airborne he did not see it at any time prior to his take off.

