

No:2/89

Ref: EW/G88/12/01

Category: 1b

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Piper PA 31-350, G-BFDA

**No & Type of Engines:** 2 Lycoming T10-540-J2BD (Port), LT10-540-J2BD (Stbd) Piston Engines

**Year of Manufacture:** 1973

**Date and Time (UTC):** 1 December 1988 at 0001 hrs

**Location:** East Midlands Airport

**Type of Flight:** Public Transport (Cargo)

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1                      Passengers - None

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

**Nature of Damage:** Substantial to propellers, engines shock-loaded, VHF aerial detached.

**Commander's Licence:** Airline Transport Pilot's Licence with instrument rating

**Commander's Age:** 57 years

**Commander's Total Flying Experience:** 17,570 hours (of which 210 hours were on type)

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

The aircraft was on a flight from Exeter to East Midlands Airport. Severe icing was experienced and the work-load was reported as heavy. During the approach to land constant monitoring of the anti-ice systems was necessary. The pilot reports that he thought the three green gear locked lights were illuminated but admits this check may have been missed.

During the roundout the aircraft seemed to be sinking more than normal and a go-around was carried out. During the initial stages of the go-around both propellers made contact with the ground but the aircraft climbed away successfully.

The aircraft was then positioned by Radar for a further approach to a landing which was uneventful. The pilot also reports that the landing gear warning horn did not sound during the first attempt to land and that he was sure that he selected the landing gear to up during the go-around.