AAIB Bulletin No: 8/93 Ref: EW/G93/04/19 Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Yak 52, LY-AFB

No & Type of Engines: 1 M-14P piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1982

Date & Time (UTC): 22 April 1993 at 1100 hrs

Location: Peterborough (Conington) Airport

Type of Flight: Private (training)

Persons on Board: Crew - 2 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Minor damage to right wingtip and aileron

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence with Instructor rating

Commander's Age: 40 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 4,994 hours (of which 7 were on type)

Last 90 days - 153 hours Last 28 days - 64 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft had been flying on a dual instruction flight at Peterborough Airport. After completing 6 circuits the aircraft was landed for re-fuelling prior to a second sortie. It is a feature of this type of aircraft that the landing gear and flaps are operated by switches that have three positions which are 'UP', 'DOWN' or 'NEUTRAL', and it is a standard procedure to select these switches to 'NEUTRAL' before starting the engine. Whilst the student pilot was carrying out the pre-start checks she inadvertedly moved the landing gear selector through the 'NEUTRAL' position to 'UP', and the right side main landing gear retracted.