Ref: 9/83 Ref: EW/G83/06/17

Aircraft type and registration: Piper PA 36-375 G-BIPJ (light single engine fixed wing aircraft)

Year of Manufacture: 1978

Date and time (GMT): 11 June 1983 at 1000 hrs

Location: Halland Park, near Lewes, Sussex

Type of flight: Aerial application

Persons on board: Crew - 1 Passengers - Nil

Injuries: Crew – nil Passengers – N/A

Nature of damage: Substantial — to propeller, left main landing gear, both wing tips,

and spraying equipment

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence (American)

Commander's age: 53 years

Commander's total flying 3,500 hours (of which 1,200 hours were on type)

experience:

After landing at a private farm strip, the spray boom made contact with the standing wheat crop. This caused the right wing to drop, and the left wing to rise, and the aircraft swung approximately 60° to the right of its landing direction. The left wing then dropped with sufficient force to remove the left landing gear. The pilot was uninjured, and there was no fire.