No: 10/83 Ref: EW/G83/05/10

Aircraft type and registration: PA 25-235 (Light single engined fixed wing aircraft)

G-BGPP

Year of manufacture: 1979

Date and time (GMT): 23 May 1983 at 1115 hrs

Location: Plumby, Cheshire

Type of flight: Crop spraying

Persons on board: Crew - 1 Passengers - Nil

Injuries: Crew - Nil Passengers - N/A

Nature of damage: Damage to propellor, engine, slight damage to the right

undercarriage, wing leading edge and spraying

equipment

Commander's Licence: Commercial

Commander's Age: 29 years

Commander's total flying experience: 3586 hours (of which 2630 hours were on type)

The pilot was completing a series of crop spraying runs when, whilst manoeuvring at a height of 20 feet for the last pass, the engine failed. He dumped the remaining chemical load and force landed the aircraft during which damage was sustained to the engine propellor and airframe.

Subsequently, the pilot supervised the disassembly of the aircraft in the field and shipped the engine to an approved organisation for inspection and repair. The fuel quantity decanted from the aircraft at this time was not recorded.

The engine was stripped and re-built with a new crankcase, a new set of bearings and several other minor components, but with the original magnetos, ignition harness, sparking plugs and carburettor. None of these components had been strip examined. The subsequent engine test showed it to perform satisfactorily.