

No: 5/83

Ref: EW/G82/12/12

Aircraft: Grumman AA5A, G-BFIL, G-BGVW and G-BERM
(Light, single engine low wing aircraft)

Year of manufacture: 1977

Date and time (GMT): 30 December 1982. Late morning (estimated)

Location: Elstree

Type of flight: Instruction/training

Persons on board: Crew - 1 Passengers - Nil

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of damage: Damage to port wing, propeller, undercarriage and engine shock loaded on G-BFIL. Damage to wing and cowlings on G-BGVW, aileron on G-BERM

Commander's Licence: Student Pilot

Commander's age: 30 years

Commander's total flying experience: 10 hours 50 minutes (all of which were on type)

The student pilot was asked to carry out a pre-flight inspection of G-BFIL prior to being joined by her instructor for a circuit detail. On starting the engine, the RPM built up extremely quickly to a high power setting, whereupon the aircraft moved forward and collided with another AA5, G-BGVW, which was parked some 13 metres away. This in turn struck a third AA5, G-BERM, causing damage to an aileron. The pilot evacuated the aircraft without injury.

The pilot later realised that she had inadvertently set the throttle to the fully open position and then closed it $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, instead of closing it and then opening it $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. Although she tried re-applying the brakes, whilst the aircraft was moving forward, they proved ineffective against the high power setting. The braking system was subsequently checked and found to be satisfactory.