

**No: 11/85**

**Ref: EW/G85/10/05**

**Aircraft type and registration:** Grumman AA-5, G-KINE (light single engine fixed wing aircraft)

**Year of Manufacture:** 1982

**Date and time (GMT):** 20 October 1985 at 1117 hrs

**Location:** Elstree Aerodrome

**Type of flight:** Instruction

**Persons on board:** Crew — 2                      Passengers — Nil

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

**Nature of damage:** Damage to nose landing gear, propeller, lower engine cowlings; and possible engine shock loading

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence with IMC and full instructor's ratings

**Commander's Age:** 25 years

**Commander's Total Flying Experience:** 680 hours (of which 670 were on type)

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot, and AIB telephone discussion with the engineering organisation.

The student completed the pre-flight walk-around check and found no obvious fault. The engine was started and pre-taxi checks completed without incident. Just after starting to taxi the instructor invited the student to check the brakes, which he did correctly. With the engine rpm set at 1000 taxiing was about to be resumed when the nose landing gear collapsed, resulting in the propeller and lower engine cowling contacting the ground.

Initial examination of the nose landing gear indicates that a stress corrosion fracture of the landing gear strut had occurred. The remains of the nose landing gear have been returned to the manufacturer for further investigation.