

**AAIU Report No.** 1998/ 009  
**AAIU File No.** 19970055  
**Published:** 26/11/1998

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Piper PA23 Aztec, G-SFHR

**No. and Type of Engines:** 2 Lycoming IO-540-C4B5

**Aircraft Serial Number:** 27/8054/041

**Year of Manufacture:** 1980

**Date and Time (UTC):** 15 November 1997, 1330 hrs

**Location:** Galway Airport

**Type of Flight:** Private

**Persons on Board:** 1

**Injuries:** Nil

**Nature of Damage:** Propeller Ground Strike

**Commanders Licence:** Commercial Pilots Licence

**Commanders Age:** 33 years

**Commanders Flying Experience:**

Total	320 hrs (156 hrs as P1).
Total on type, P1	38 hrs
Total last 90 days	7 hrs
Total last 28 days	5 hrs

**Information Source:** ATS Galway Airport and Pilot's Report

### **Synopsis**

The aircraft departed Shannon Airport at 1245 hrs on the day of the incident, bound for Galway Airport. At 1324 hrs the initial attempt to land at Galway on Runway 08 was made. After a number of bounces the pilot abandoned the landing and initiated a go-around. The second landing attempt on the same runway was successful, but took about almost the full length of the runway, which is 1334 metres long, and 23 metres wide. The tower observed that the aircraft almost ran off the runway. In response to a call from the tower, the pilot replied that all was OK.

The pilot then parked the aircraft, and notified the tower that he intended to depart for the UK the following day. He did not refer to any damage to the aircraft. Some three hours later a member of airport staff alerted the ATCO that one of the propellers of the aircraft appeared to be damaged. An inspection of the runway revealed four identical marks, each approximately 2.5 cm deep, in the tarmac surface.

When the pilot arrived the following day, the ATCO queried the damage to the aircraft. The pilot replied that he had discussed the matter with his maintenance support in the UK, and that they had cleared the aircraft for return to the UK. The pilot then departed, in the aircraft, for the UK.

### **Weather Information**

The wind in Galway Airport at the time of the incident was from 160° at 11-13 Kts.

### **Follow Up Action**

In consultation with the UK Air Accident Investigation Branch, it was agreed that this incident would be further investigated by the UK authorities.