



SERVICE LETTER

No. 912

Piper Aircraft Corporation

Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

FAA Approved

March 5, 1981

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Subject:

Main Landing Gear Downlock Hook Rivet
Replacement

Models Affected:

PA-31, PA-31-300, PA-31-325
Navajo
PA-31-350 Chieftain

Serial Numbers Affected:

31-2 through 31-8012092
31-5001 through 31-8052221

Compliance Time:

Recommended at the next scheduled inspection
event.

Purpose:

Field reports show that in aircraft which have aluminum rivets attaching the steel landing gear downlock hook bracket to the downlock hook, dissimilar metals could cause corrosion to develop.

This service release provides instructions for inspection to determine if aluminum rivets are installed and, if necessary, for replacement with monel rivets.

Instructions:

NOTE:

Inspection in accordance with Piper Service Letter No. 755B, dated March 3, 1980, "Inspection and Lubrication of Landing Gear Lock Actuator Rod and Rod End Bearing Assemblies", is recommended in conjunction with compliance with this Service Release.

Repeat Instructions Left and Right Gear.

1. With a magnet, determine material composition of rivets shown in Figure A, attached.
 - a. If all rivets are magnetic (steel) make appropriate logbook entry of compliance; no further action required.
 - b. If any rivets are non-magnetic (aluminum) continue with following Instructions.
2. Place aircraft on jacks. Refer to Section II of Maintenance Manual for jacking instructions.

(over)

Instructions: (continued)

3. Disconnect downlock operating rod from downlock hook (Figure B, attached).
4. Remove downlock hook by removing pivot bolt (Figure B).
5. Drill off the head and remove the shank of the aluminum rivets holding the laminated segments of the hook together. Replace rivet with monel MS20427M4-8 Rivet, Piper Part No. 420 890; flush both sides (Refer to Figure A.)
6. Drill off the heads and remove the shanks of the two aluminum rivets attaching the hook to the hook brackets. Replace rivets with monel MS20615-5M-11 Rivets, Piper Part No. 422 241. (Refer to Figure A.)
7. Reassemble the downlock hook, downlock spring and drag link, and lubricate in accordance with Maintenance Manual.
8. Check gear adjustment, operation and alignment in accordance with Section VII of Maintenance Manual.
9. Remove aircraft from jacks and make appropriate logbook entry of compliance.

Material Required:

Up to two (2) each MS20427-M4-8 Monel Rivets, Piper Part No. 420 890.
Up to four (4) each MS20615-5M-11 Monel Rivets, Piper Part No. 422 241.

Availability of Parts:

Your Piper Field Service Facility.

Effectivity Date:

This Service Release is effective upon receipt.

Summary:

Please contact your Piper Field Service Facility to arrange for compliance with the provisions of this Service Release in accordance with Compliance Time, above.

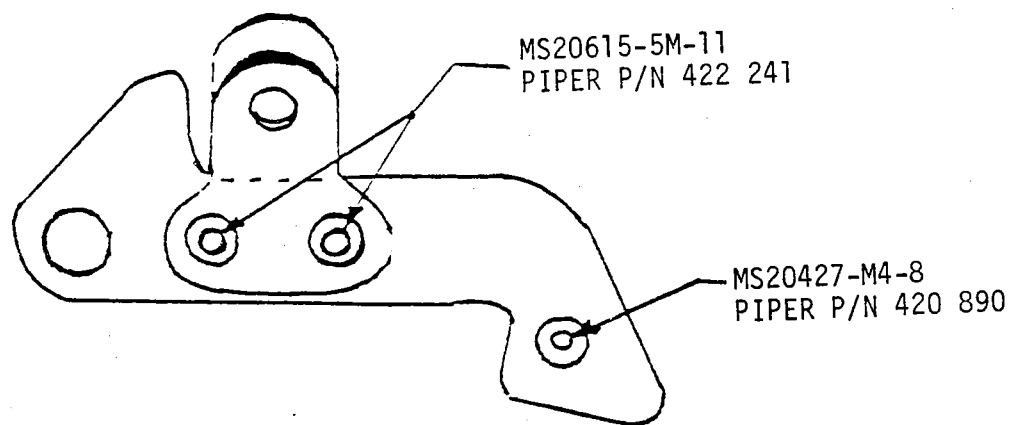


FIGURE A

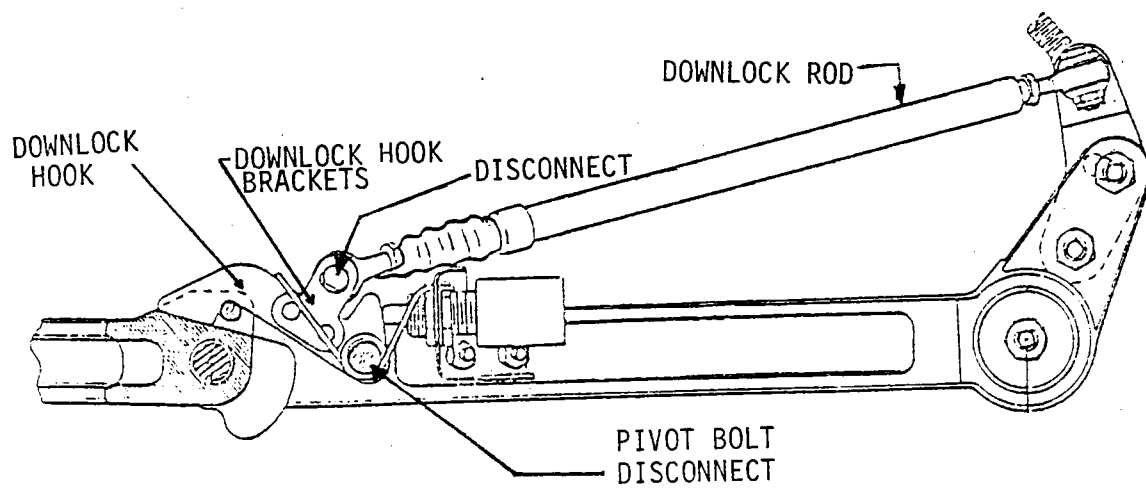


FIGURE B