

CANCELLED

GLIDING FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA

AIRWORTHINESS ADVISORY NOTICE

GFA/AN/28 LET N.P. KUNOVICE 5

CANCELLED

BLANK L-13 SAFE LIFE

The issue of Airworthiness Advice Notice Ref. No. AN/27/Kunovice 4 has created some incorrect impressions; this notice set out under the heading of "Commonwealth of Australia - Department of Transport" was issued by the Gliding Federation of Australia and does not in fact represent the views of that Department.

The statement relating to a safe life limit of 3000 hrs. as a type certification requirement in the Federal Republic of West Germany arose from provisional certification requirements relating to F.R.P. gliders and the state of knowledge prevailing at that time. Available information indicates that no specific safe life is called for in the current glider type certification requirements of the Federal Republic of West Germany.

Answers to a list of technical questions posed to the Czechoslovakian Aviation Authorities have been received and are being evaluated to assess a "safe life" under typical Australian operating conditions. This assessment will take time but a preliminary assessment does not offer encouragement that any great extension of safe life will be justifiable. It is known that fatigue testing of a Blank L-13 glider and components was undertaken and that failures occurred.

These fatigue tests were a basis for the initial safe life of 3000 hrs or 15,000 launches determined by the Czechoslovakian Authorities; basis for the extension of safe life set out in Bulletin L-13/045 is mainly on the basis that average operating conditions are less severe than the assumed loading spectrum initially used.

It appears, however, that the best prospect for any effective increase to the economic safe life of L-13 Blank gliders rests with the possibility of replacement of fatigue prone assemblies. It should be recognized that the above view reflects the opinion of the G.F.A. Chief Technical Officer Airworthiness as did the comments in Airworthiness Advice Notice Ref. No. GFA/AN/27 Kunovice 4.

As and when further information on the safe life for L-13 Blanks comes to hand it will be forwarded on.

CANCELLED

Douglas Lyon

Douglas Lyon.

Date of Issue: 5th September, 1977.

CHIEF TECHNICAL OFFICER AIRWORTHINESS
GLIDING FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA

Distribution:

Owners/Operators L-13 Blank

C.T.O.s A & Ops.

R.T.O.s A & Ops.

A.T.O.

T.L.O.

Department of Transport

R. Pollard

G. Detto

R. Martin

D. Venston

G. Simpkins

C. Willis

B. McKenzie

S. Chappell

W. Thomson

J. Dewhurst

E. Schneider Pty. Ltd.

C.R. Hurst

Wiley Aeronautics Pty. Ltd.

P. Ansell

G. Higginson