

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

AIR TRANSPORT GROUP

AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE - GLIDERS

GFA/AD 76/LET N.P. KUNOVICE 8

Glider Type Affected: L-13 Blanik.

Precautionary Inspection

Background:

During flight a control jamming occurred which was cleared by a high force applied to the control column. Subsequent investigation revealed that a rudder cable turnbuckle and elevator control cable turnbuckle were located side by side just behind the fuselage main bulkhead and that due to slackness of the control cables, which was not unusually excessive, the cables had come together sufficiently for the turnbuckle locking plates to become hooked together.

Further investigation of a number of L-13 Blaniks has not shown the location of control cable turnbuckles to be the same as the subject glider, but it is not known if there are other Blaniks which have control cable turnbuckles located similarly.

Required action:

Inspect through the inspection hatch located on the right hand side of the fuselage below the right wing and check whether turnbuckles are present in the rudder cables and elevator cables in this area.

Early model Blaniks had the rudder cable turnbuckles located in close proximity to the front rudder pedals and the elevator cable turnbuckles near the rear of the fuselage.

Later models have the rudder cable turnbuckles located aft of the main bulkhead but have the elevator turnbuckles still near the rear of the fuselage.

If it is found that rudder and elevator control cable turnbuckles are located in close proximity, the elevator cables are to be replaced with cables having the turnbuckles located at the rear end of the fuselage.

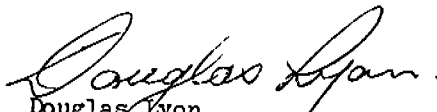
As an interim measure ½" nominal bore P.V.C. pipe sleeves 2 feet long may be fitted over the elevator cables and turnbuckles and secured with lockwire to the elevator control idler lever. Cable tension must be correctly adjusted.

All replacements and adjustments must be carried out by or under the supervision of the holder of an Airworthiness Authorisation form CA.1109 endorsed for Certificate of Airworthiness Inspections. Replacement of components or standard repairs are to be inspected at the completion of work by an inspector holding an authorisation as above and an independent check carried out by the holder of a similar or lower airworthiness authorisation.

If it is found that the glider has turnbuckles located as in the subject glider, forward notice of this fact to -

Chief Technical Officer Airworthiness,
Gliding Federation of Australia,
143 Blackburn Road,
MT. WAVERLEY Vic. 3149

This directive is issued pursuant to Air Navigation Regulations under delegated authority of the Secretary of Department of Transport.


Douglas Lyon
CHIEF TECHNICAL OFFICER AIRWORTHINESS
GLIDING FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA

Date of Issue: 25th February, 1977.